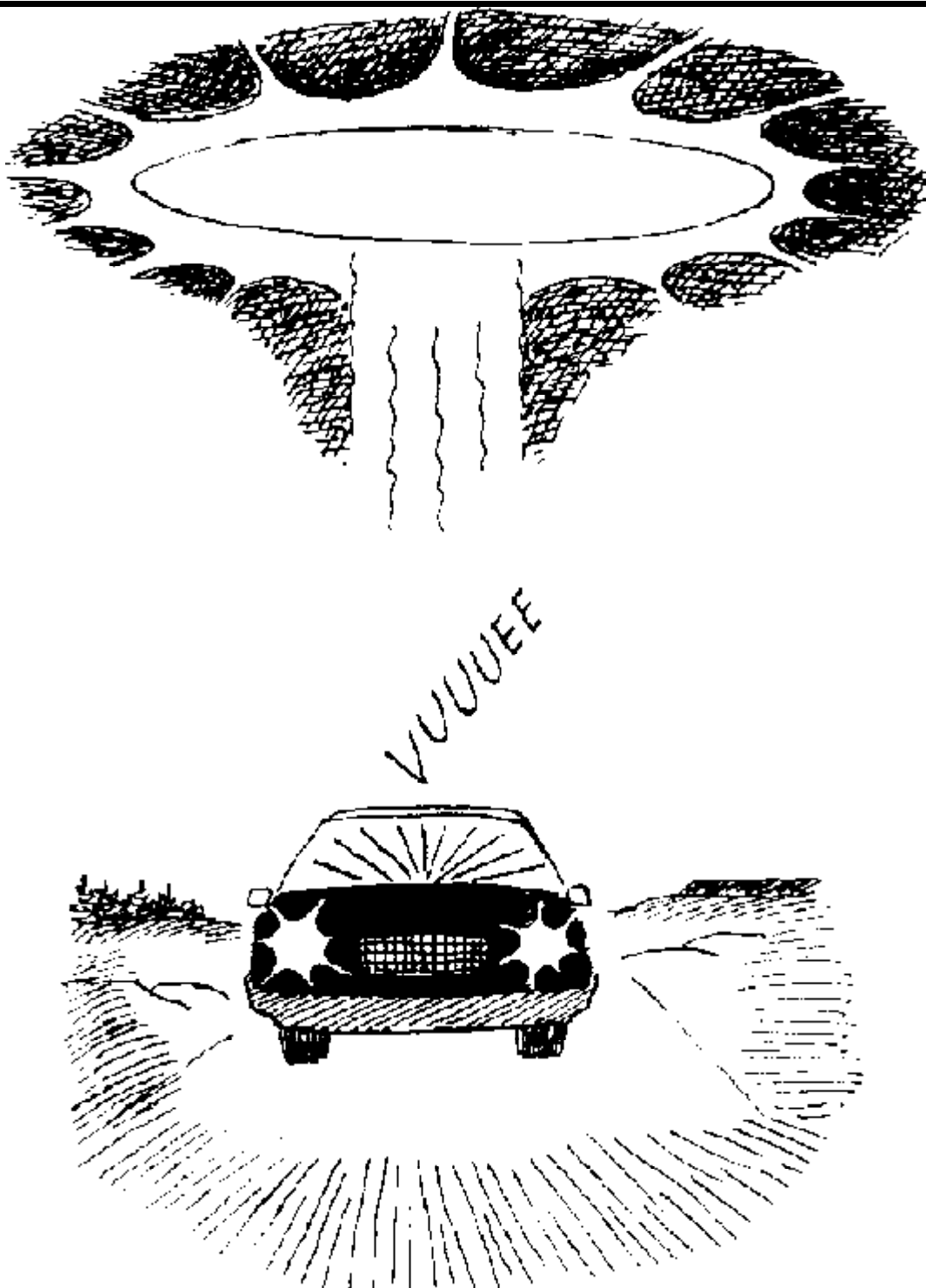

SUFOI News 1997

SUFOI Newsletter No. 16

Excerpts from the Danish Magazine "UFO-Nyt"



SUFOI 40 YEARS ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE. *See page 38.*



Front cover:

It was Friday evening. A young man was driving southward from Brande towards Vejle, suddenly a bright light lit up above the car. See page 4 and 12.

Drawing: Vejle Amt Folkeblad, 18 November 1995.



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Scandinavian UFO Information

Excerpts from the Danish Magazine UFO-NYT

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Postbox 6

DK-2820 Gentofte

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Published 1997

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UFO-Nyt is published by Scandinavian UFO Information (SUFOI)

Postbox 6

DK 2820 Gentofte

Denmark

Telephone + 45 86 99 92 39

SUFOI NEWS ○ SUFOI Newsletter is published irregularly by
Scandinavian UFO Information (SUFOI) ○ Postbox 6 ○ DK-2820 Gentofte ○ Denmark
ISSN 0904-2598

Sightings June 1995 - May 1996

In the period June - November 1995 SUFOI received 207 reports - which is more than in the entire year of 1994, and from December 1995 to May 1996 SUFOI received in all 97 reports.

This clear-up rate is at the same level as the last summary. It should however be noted that a large number of the cases have not yet been completed. Consequently the clear-up rate is usually closer to 95% when we prepare the final annual summary.

Great activity

In the period June-November 1995 we received 207 reports in all. From these, 176 sightings occurred within the six month period. This activity is much greater than we have experienced in the last couple of years. For example there were only 199 sightings in 1994.

One of the primary causes of this activity can be found in the big media interest in UFOs in the autumn. The interest was at its peak on 18 October 1995, when SUFOI participated in a program about UFOs on Danish TV2. The following days we received a lot of reports. October is also in the lead with 52 reports.

Space shuttle, plane or UFO

With a four-day delay the American space shuttle Atlantis was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Tues-

day 27 June 1995. The launch took place at 9:30 pm, Danish Summer Time and about 9:50 pm the space shuttle should have been visible from Denmark.

The same day Aarhus Stiftstidende had printed a short article about the launch, and a lot of Aarhus residents spent the warm summer night taking a walk to look for the space shuttle.

At the time of the approach of the space shuttle a glowing object moved across the sky and many thought that it was the Atlantis. The movement of the phenomenon didn't match that of the space shuttle. The witnesses estimated that the phenomenon was coming from north-north-east and disappearing in the south-south-west; the phenomenon passed East of Aarhus. The space shuttle moved at a low altitude, across the southern horizon on a course from west to east.

That means it couldn't have been the Atlantis that several Aarhus residents had observed.

The incident was mentioned in Aarhus Stiftstidende the following days, and SUFOI received a series of reports. A man from Viby had the good fortune to record the phenomenon on video tape.

After having evaluated the descriptions of the sighting and the video tape, SUFOI has reached the conclusion that a plane is a reasonable explanation for the phenomenon. It passed East of Aarhus, it was observed above the Aarhus Bay and at that time the sun was low over the western horizon.

This means that there were good conditions for the reflection of sunlight off the surface of a plane.

Light near Aabenraa

The witness (JHT) and his daughter were outside their house in Hostrupskov near Aabenraa. The witness isn't absolutely sure about the date of the sighting but it must have been around 12 August 1995. Both people were outside to observe shooting stars from the Perseides meteor swarm, which was at its maximum on 12 August.

The time was between 11 and 12 pm Danish Summer Time. The sky was clear. In the western direction they both saw a bright light which made some odd movements. At first it moved about 30 degrees above the northern direction with the speed of a satellite.

After this the light stood still for about two minutes, and then moved to a altitude of about 60-70 degrees above the horizon in only about one to two seconds. Here it stood still for about two minutes after which it moved down towards the horizon in a northerly course and disappeared behind some object on the landscape.

Unfortunately the witness can't say how long the sighting lasted, only that it was "several minutes".

The phenomenon was white and JHT estimates the light to be about ten times stronger than that of a satellite and about five times stronger than that of a planet.

By Toke
Haunstrup
and Torben
Birkeholm



Danish Reports

The unusual movements of the phenomenon seem to rule out a plane as the explanation and SUFOI views the phenomenon as unidentified.

Car stop with effects

On 29 September 1995 a young man drove south on the highway from Give to Vejle. He had his dog with him in the car.

At about 9.30 p.m. the motor cut out several times; at the same time the lights went out and all the instruments were behaving wildly. The needles flew back and forth and the windscreen wipers started.

Suddenly a bright light lit up above the car. The man opened the door and looked up. To his great amazement he saw a big disc 12 to 15 metres in diameter, with a number of sharp "lamps" in circles below. The disc was flying without a sound right above the car at a maximum height of 3-4 metres.

After a short period the light grew dimmer and the disc moved to the front of the car and disappeared, still soundless, behind some trees by the road.

Several minutes passed before the man had calmed down the dog and had composed himself. He continued with no further interruptions.

In spite of requests from the family and friends SUFOI wasn't informed until a couple of weeks later, and they immediately started the investigation. On 18 November a long article in Vejle Amts Folkeblad described the incident. At the same time witnesses were asked to get in touch with SUFOI.

Within a few days seven people called about the article. Later on Danmarks Radio Kanal 94 in Vejle brought a direct interview including SUFOI's reports on the case.

What really happened to the car? How did the dog react?

Where exactly did it occur? How did the UFO look from the side? How long did all this last and were there any witnesses to the car stop?

See the article "*UFO close to car*" on page 12.

An unusual meteor

On the night of 30 September 1995 an electronics technician from Greve was outside his house looking at the clear sky.

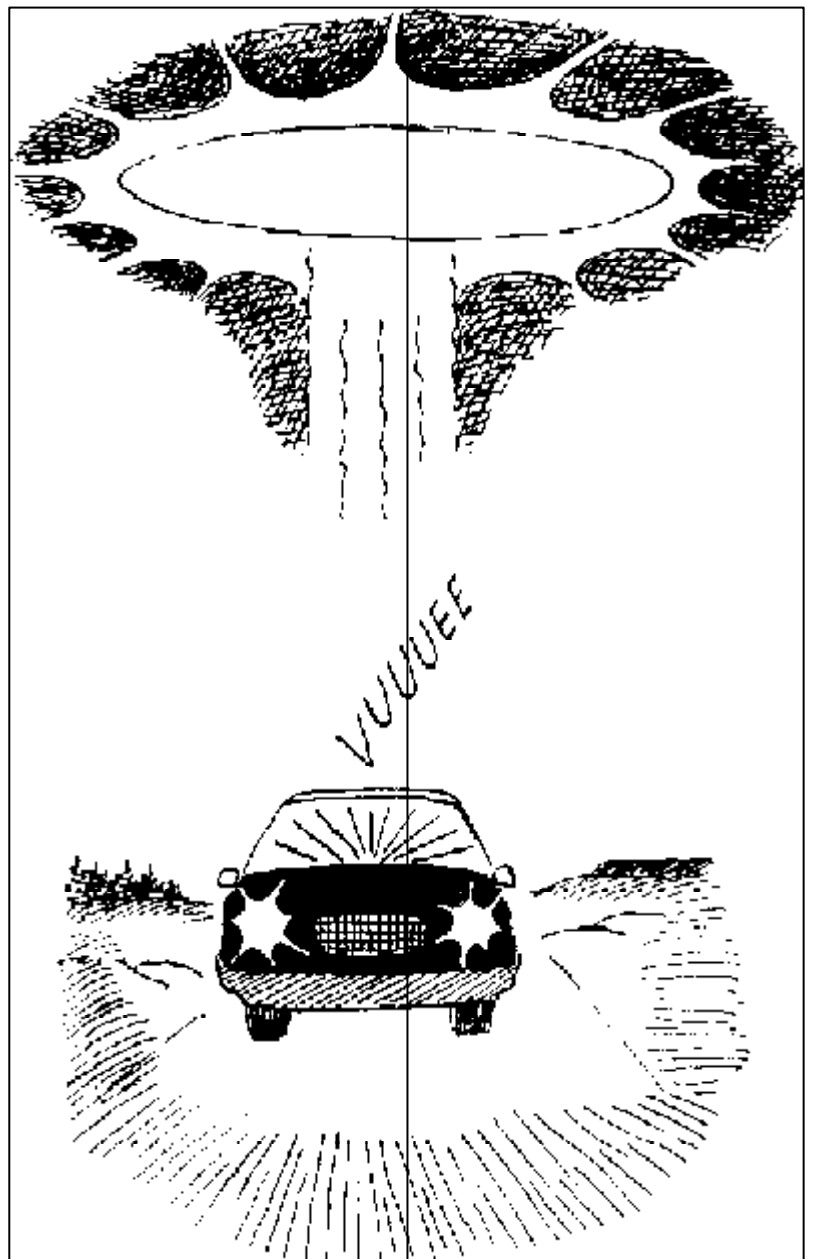
About 11:57 p.m. Danish Normal Time he saw two red lights, which, at high speed, moved one behind the other in a straight line. The lights ap-

peared at 45 degrees altitude above the north-east horizon and disappeared behind some trees to the south west. The light moved from left to right. The brightness of the phenomenon was very unsteady and was compared to the brightness of stars. The sighting only took 2-3 seconds.

The high speed of the lights seems to have excluded a plane as the explanation. It's more likely that it was a small meteor. In spite of the fact that the red or dark-red colour is rare, it can occur, in the same way as it is seen that meteors can divide into several fragments which follow the path of the

An artist's impression of the unusual car stop in Give on 29 September 1995.

Drawing: Vejle Amts Folkeblad, 18 November 1995.



meteor through the atmosphere of the Earth.

Therefore it is suggested that an unusual meteor could be the explanation for this sighting.

"The UFO shone towards us - and disappeared down in the woods"

On Sunday 5 November 1995 investigators Asle Nielsen (AN) and Peter Nørgaard (PN) were on a UFO hunt in the Egtved area south of Vejle. We were investigating an interesting sighting made from a riding school, where two terror-stricken 18-year-old girls had seen an odd light in the sky.

The sighting occurred on Friday 3 November 1995, which is when one of the girls phoned SUFOI's Alarm Centre. The two girls thought that the light had moved off towards a woodland area around 1 km from the riding school. The object had then gone down into the wood and at one point directed the light over towards them, after which it went out. They could not hear any sound in connection with the light. The time of the sighting was around 19.15.

At the same time as this UFO report we had also learnt that one of the girls' parents and younger brother had seen some strange lights in the sky in towards Vejle.

We were therefore expecting to hear about two different sightings from four witnesses in all (we had been unable to get in touch with one of the girls from the riding school).

However we had to revise our ideas a little. The living room in the girls home had been turned into a cosy 'coffee club' for a number of neighbours, and other residents of the street were there in support. There were several types of cake, hot coffee and beer on the table. And we - the two mysterious investigators - had

apparently been selected to be the highlight of the day.

It quickly became apparent that several of the 8-10 neighbours, amongst others, had also seen the strange lights in several circles over Vejle. Everyone wanted to talk about their experiences, and the conversation flew excitedly across the table. "No, it didn't look like that, Hans" and "the light wasn't red, it was white" and so on.

We had to get to the point before the chatter got out of hand and we lost ourselves in the details, so we proposed that AN spoke to the daughter about her sighting, which the others obviously had not been involved in. The two sat out in the kitchen, while in the living room I tried to keep control over the other four or five different sighting reports, which nevertheless all seemed to involve the same phenomenon.

A couple of days later the local newspaper Vejle Amts Folkeblad published our appeal for witnesses. This resulted in a deluge of phone calls about the light in the sky over Vejle. In addition 30 people living on the outskirts of the town contacted us about the light phenomenon. Amongst others there were reports from Traballe, Bredballe, Nørremarken, Lindved and Kærbølling.

There were many different sighting times, but all from Friday 3 November 1995. One witness said:

"I was on the way in on the driveway of my house in Nørremarken around 23.20, when in the sky I saw two round light-circles in the distance. Even though it was late I went in and called the neighbour, as there was still a light on the in the living room. He came outside and we stood and watched the lights, which were rotating alternately one way and then the other. We stood and watched for about half an hour while we discussed the origin of the light.

Now and then the light shot out to the side. There was no light beam that we could see coming from the ground. We couldn't find an explanation."

Owing partly to the help of the many interested people who phoned us, we quickly confirmed our theory that a laser beam was to blame. Many observers had driven in the direction of the light, and had followed it all the way into Dæmningen in the middle of Vejle. The explanation was that in connection with the opening of 'Texas', a new game and entertainment centre in the middle of Vejle, a laser had been set up on the roof of the building.

On the Friday evening in question there had been several small clouds at low altitude, which meant that the laser beam was not visible just a few kilometres away. It was a classic example of the many laser beam sightings that SUFOI has become familiar with in the past few years.

Back to the other case with the two witnesses from the riding school. When we had got an explanation from one of the girls, we drove out to the location, where she explained again, pointed out the direction of the sighting and so on. There was nothing in the field of view that could give rise to an explanation. However a short time later we thought we had found the solution, driving down into the wood that the girl thought the light has disappeared into. If we could find something interesting there that would cast 'light' on the situation, it would be a little like the proverbial needle in a haystack.

We ended up at the end of a woodland road outside a small farm, where we rang the bell. No, they had not seen any strange light at the time of the sighting, but the woman who opened the door pointed up to a powerful halogen lamp, which they had got set up only a week before. It was the type that is

By Peter Nørgaard



Danish Reports

activated by movement within the sensor's field of view. Suddenly we saw a possible explanation for it being the solution to the light in the woods (obviously it could not also be the explanation for the light the girls saw in the sky, but that could be something else).

Together with the girl AN drove his car (with mobile phone) back to the riding school. I stayed at the farm, where I was allowed to borrow a telephone. When the agreed amount of time had passed and AN and the girl were in place at the location of the sighting, I rang them on the mobile phone. Obviously I had first made sure that the lamp in the farmyard was switched on. Now it would be interesting to find out if they could see anything, but unfortunately they could not see the light from the halogen lamp through the wood.

The subsequent investigation included, among other things, contacting Vandel Air Base, situated not so far from the location of the sighting. We were informed that on Friday 3 November 1995, first thing in the evening, there had been an exercise in the area close to the wood. Several helicopters had flown at low altitude in formation over a certain specified route. Some of the time their searchlights were lit, and a couple of times they went down into the terrain. We cannot prove that it was the lights from these helicopters that the two horse enthusiasts saw, but in our opinion this is a very strong possibility.

UFO reason for 'housequake'?

On 2 November 1995 the local newspaper Amts Avisen in Randers printed a story with the headline The house shook. The text continued:

"Earth tremor in the morning between Hadsund and Havndal." The owner of the house, Lone Mex, says that he was up around 05.00 Thursday morning, *"when the house shook, the porcelain rattled and all the hanging ornaments were wobbling."*

The journalist who wrote the article had contacted the Land Registry Office, where Søren Gregersen (an expert in Danish earth tremors) was able to report that there had been no deflections recorded on any of their seismographs, even the one nearest to Hadsund, which was located in Mønsted. (In fact 2-10 small tremors are registered every year in Denmark.) So much for the first press report, with not a word about UFOs.

However on 4 November 1995 the story continued, when a reader from the east of Randers contacted Amts Avisen. The female subscriber had been up around 05.30 the same morning, that is 25-30 minutes after the tremor in Havndal, and happened to see a bluish light through the window. It was oval-shaped and moving through the sky at great speed. The reader had no idea what it could be, and when she saw the article about the 'housequake' she connected the two events together.

There were more responses to the story in Amts Avisen, which on 7 November 1995 printed the headline More strange blue lights. A further three women independently of each other had seen the odd light-blue ball of light moving at high speed through the sky.

The paper then contacted Karup Air Base, who did not know anything about the light ball. Amts Avisen also approached SUFOI, whereupon I was given permission to contact the witnesses who had been in touch with the newspaper. I have spoken to all of them as well as Lone Mex, who lives in

the house that was shaking (which it did again on 8 November 1995).

The sighting reports led me very quickly to think of a meteor. Through a phone conversation with Gotfred M. Kristensen at the Danish Fireball Centre, who record radio signals in Danish airspace with a pen recorder, I had it confirmed that at 05.29 on 2 November 1995 there had been a deflection lasting 31 seconds.

My conclusion is that the blue light ball was a meteor. Consequently there are absolutely no grounds to believe that was any connection between the blue light and the first house tremor. Furthermore it can be seen that the light was observed around 05.30, half an hour later than the house tremor.

As a finale to the case the local paper in Randers wrote, *"Mysterious blue light was a meteor, says Scandinavian UFO Information."* What the precise reason for the house tremors was - well, the answer is presumably still lying well hidden under the Jutland soil.

Course for new investigators

Despite a low number of sighting reports, SUFOI has not "had its feet up" for the first half of this year. In April we held a weekend course for new investigators in Copenhagen. Seven people attended the course, and they are welcomed as investigators for SUFOI.

SUFOI has over the last few years established a tradition of holding an annual course for investigators. Thanks to these courses SUFOI has an active team of investigators.

The courses are open to everyone interested in the subject, and readers are very welcome to SUFOI's Report Centre to hear more. Phone or write to: Toke Haunstrup, Kollegie-

bakken 9, vær. 508, 2800 Lyngby (phone 45 977 144). It must be emphasised that attendance on the course puts no obligation on SUFOI.

The light that drew itself in

A man told of a sighting he had as an eight-year-old. At that time he lived in Kærby, outside Kalundborg, and the incident took place one afternoon with bright sunshine in the summer of 1978.

"I was sitting playing under the living room window looking out into the garden, when I got the feeling that I had to look out of the window. At the end of the garden, a little above an old walnut tree, hung a rectangular, shining box, completely still. The yellow light was very bright, but nonetheless pleasant to look at. A light I have never seen since.

"In the middle of the object was a black core that was either rectangular or oval, which was difficult to make out, as the light was pulsating.

"The sides of the box were also difficult to make out, because the light here was brighter, but I perceived a straight line at each end.

"I called my mother, who was in another part of the house, but she came too late to take part in the experience. The light suddenly drew itself in around the black core and was gone." The sighting took around two minutes.

Witness shocked by light phenomenon

Some time ago SUFOI received a report of a sighting from Mors (North-west Zealand). The incident took place on 28 April 1994 in the countryside near the town Erslev. Three adult men were outdoors near the house of one of them.

Around 22.30 DST one of the men (HN) notice two stationary lights. The lights were close together and they had a hazy outline. HN perceived the lights as "windows" in an object. He pointed the phenomenon out to his friends, and together they saw the light begin to "rock" from side to side. This continued for about five minutes, after which - according to HN - a red "cylinder of light" came into view, that stretched itself between the two lights and the ground. The lights now stood still, and a white beam of light spread down towards the ground, while the red light disappeared.

According to HN the beam of light was observed for around 20 seconds, after which it was gradually "pulled up" over a period of five seconds. However one of the other witnesses thought that the light beam could be seen for a whole five minutes, after which it disappeared as when one turns off a light switch. The phenomenon then moved a little towards the east (to the right of the witnesses) and stood still again.

Subsequently HN attempted to signal to the phenomenon by lighting a lighter. There was no 'response' to the signal, so for a few seconds HN turned on the lights of a tractor that was standing nearby. Directly after that the white spotlight came into view again. This time it lit up - according to HN - the antenna on a house, that was at the most 25 metres from the location of the sighting.

The phenomenon remained unchanged in position and appearance. After five to ten minutes one of the witnesses decided to go home.

HN was somewhat shocked by seeing the phenomenon (which was still visible) and was therefore driven home by his friend, who lived in the house from where the phenomenon was sighted. When the friend

later arrived back at the house, the phenomenon was no longer visible.

Originally one of the three witnesses approached SUFOI's Alarm Centre, from where the case was passed on to the organisation's local investigator in Viborg, Frode Lovmand, who interviewed two of the three witnesses.

The phenomenon - which appeared in a northerly direction - was observed for around 30 minutes.

After having visited the two witnesses, Frode Lovmand evaluated both of them as trustworthy, and he has not been able to find an explanation for the phenomenon.

Flying wing

A witness from Strynø - which lies between Langeland and Ærø - contacted SUFOI's Alarm Centre at the end of January to report a sighting she had earlier in the month.

The witness, a housewife in her forties, said that on Wednesday 24 January 1996 she was sitting with her morning coffee when her attention was caught by a flash of light. Out of curiosity she fetched a pair of binoculars (10x40) to look closer at the phenomenon. Through the binoculars she could see what seemed to be a sort of wing with four antennae, two on top and two pointing downwards. Three of the antennae were distinctly split up like pearls on a necklace and of varying height and thickness. The last antenna was so thin as to be almost invisible.

The "wing" was rectangular and about six times as long as it was wide. It was higher at the front, where the antennae sat, and sloped downwards.

The colour was white like new glass fibre, and the antennae seemed darker, but there were no visible openings or windows.

By Toke Haunstrup and Erling Hegelund



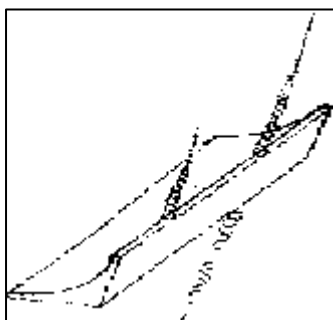
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The object disappeared behind the roof, and about a minute later she saw it coming from the south-west and flying north-east.

The wind was easterly and the weather frosty with light cloud. The witness estimated the distance to be 3-5 km.

The witness caught sight of the phenomenon at a great

height in a south-westerly direction. Under observation it moved on a straight course towards the north-west, where it disappeared behind some roofs. No sound was heard in connection with the sighting. It should be



The witness's own drawing of the strange flying wing seen over Strynø on 24 January 1996.

noted that the witness was indoors.

The witness could not remember the exact time, but thought that the sighting - that lasted a minute at the most - must have taken place at some point between 10:00 and 10:30 DNT.

The witness explained that at first she thought that it might be a satellite. That explanation can quickly be excluded however, as satellites are not visible in daylight.

A plane would be a more likely explanation, but the phenomenon's unique appearance also renders that theory less plausible.

Lights at Næstved

On Tuesday 6 February 1996 the witness (PH) was on his way home by car. PH is 40 years old and a cook. With him in his car he had his seven-year-old daughter and ten-year-old son.

Near Fensmark (north of Næstved) they all caught sight of five or six closely spaced white lights. The lights were pulsating and placed in a horizontal line. PH stopped the car and reversed a little to get a better view of the phenomenon.

During the whole sighting the lights remained stationary in the direction of Næstved (i.e. to the south) at a low altitude above the horizon. In all the sighting lasted about three minutes, after which the lights 'went out' one by one. After this the phenomenon was no longer visible. There was no sound connected to the sighting.

Various explanations have been suggested for the sighting - including that it could have been plane lights. It seems difficult however, to find a satisfactory explanation for the case, which SUFOI therefore considers unsolved.

Shining red wheel

On the morning of Sunday 10 March 1996 at 02.40 a woman in Grinsted observed something unusual in the sky. To the east she saw a light that she first thought was the light from a plane. It came so low in the sky that she thought it would crash, but then she noticed the strange shape.

Most of all it resembled a large old-fashioned wooden wagon wheel with spokes, and the whole 'wheel' was blinking with a strong red or pink colour.

She watched it glide slowly through the sky above Grinsted, without her being able to hear a sound from it. After that it turned and disappeared towards the south-east.

Shining rings seen over Esbjerg

The witness, a decorator in his early fifties, was in the garden in the evening of 30 March 1996 to watch out for the comet Hyakutake. It could be seen easily in the clear night sky.

At 20.05 DNT he noticed high in the sky (between Hyakutake and the Great Bear) two light-blue-grey rings, flying on a

straight course from W-SW towards E-NE.

The witness described the phenomenon's appearance as two faintly luminous rings, each with a thin, blue strip of light in the middle. He also noticed that the starry sky was visible through the 'inside' of the rings.

The witness first wondered whether the phenomenon could be caused by a flock of swan or a plane. However as the stars were visible through the rings he excluded these possibilities.

After two or three minutes of observation the phenomenon disappeared behind some high buildings. The witness ran into the street to follow the ring's further movements, but they had both disappeared.

During the entire sighting the rings stayed together on the same course and without changing their relative positions. No sound was heard from the phenomenon. The witness states in the report form that he was somewhat shaken by the incident.

SUFOI's investigator - Egon Olsen, Horsens - examined the case further. He contacted the airports at Esbjerg, Billund and Vandel to find out whether there had been any aircraft activity over Esbjerg at the time of the sighting. None of these places could confirm such activity. On account of the phenomenon's peculiar appearance and the lack of aircraft activity, SUFOI's evaluation is that a plane is not a reasonable explanation for the sighting.

Circle in Ringsted wheat field

A farmer from Haraldstedvej in Valsømagle by Ringsted takes a trip every evening to tend to his fields. On 22 April 1996 he saw to his great surprise a large withered patch in the wheat field - a patch that was not there the day before! The patch lay at the highest point on the light

slopes that are found in winter wheat fields.

Unfortunately he first contacted SUFOI on 29 April, and for practical reasons Erling Hegelund could first inspect the patch on 16 May. By that time the wheat in the patch was completely withered, while that outside was fresh and green.

The patch was a circle with a diameter of 8 metres, where one side of the circle was "crooked" so that the diameter here was only 7.5 metres. Out by the "crooked" side was another withered patch in the wheat. It was oval with a length of 1.5 metres and a width of 0.7 metres.

There was a fine border between completely withered wheat, half-withered wheat and fresh wheat. The border was around 30 cm wide.

Inside the circle were six irregular patches, typically 20x30 cm, where the wheat was not affected. They were all situated on one side of the circle.

The edge of the circle was not sharply defined. In addition to the fine border there were also cuts in the edge of about 30 cm. There was no pattern to the cuts.

The farmer stated that there were four depressions in the circle. They were 15 cm wide, 1.5-2.0 cm deep and bowl-shaped.

When Erling Hegelund saw the circle only one depression was visible, as the others had been trampled away by the many subsequent people who had visited the place in the meantime.

The ground was very hard, as it had not rained for a while and the winter had been unusually dry. The farmer had not weeded since the autumn and in the spring had fertilised here twice, on 7 April and 23 April.

When he found the patch the ground was not any different inside or outside. Erling Hegelund took three samples of earth from the surface inside



The withered patch of winter wheat near Ringsted. Picture: Erling Hegelund



The small circle in the wheat field can be seen to the right. Picture: Erling Hegelund

the circle and three outside. The samples were each homogenised, and three pots were made of earth from inside the circle and three from earth from outside the circle. Wheat was planted in the pots. If there was some sort of lasting effect that was hampering, it would be seen with this test.

It was seen that the wheat had just as high a sprouting rate in the earth from inside the circle as in the earth taken from the field outside.

The plants that were growing in the earth from the circle were darker in colour than the reference plants. That could be because the fertiliser inside the circle was not used as much as outside, as there had been no living plants to make use of it.

The farmer ruled out the possibility that he had over-fertilised in one patch, as he had not stood still at any point. That would also have been noticeable from an area of more dark green plants outside the circle, where they would have survived the fertiliser and just have taken in more. There was no such difference in colour.

The farmer also maintained that it was not any of his friends or colleagues playing a joke.

As the case stands at the moment, SUFOI cannot give any explanation for the patch.

Shaking in waterbeds

On Monday 29 April 1996 at 03.55 a nightmare started for two women in Sylleskovvej in

Danish Reports

Nyborg. The women live opposite each other and both sleep alone in a waterbed.

Suddenly they were woken up as the waterbed began to shake and the whole house was vibrating. They stated that the shaking in the bed was just like the electric water baths that are used for giving foot massages, where the water shakes.

One of the women, sociology student Lone Vorret, could feel the vibration for about five minutes, after which it stopped. She did not get out of bed during the shaking, but just wondered about it and afterwards went back to sleep.

The next day she kept the experience to herself, as she thought she must have been imagining things. Only when her neighbour had asked whether she had experienced anything strange did she say anything about it.

The other woman, Jytte Lund Andersen, sleeps on the first floor and was woken in the same way at 03:55 by a powerful humming in the waterbed and the whole house. She got up and looked out of a sloping window, and in the light night sky could see two large, grey, diffuse clouds flying backwards and forwards above the horizon. While they flew they had the same relative distance the whole time. It was completely cloudless and starry, with no wind. She describes them herself as "thunderclouds".

At the same time she had the feeling that above the roof there was some sort of "energy" that the reason for the humming. There was no real noise, only a strong overall vibration.

After about four minutes the vibrations suddenly stopped and she thought it was over, but after about two minutes it began again.

She went back to bed and hid under the duvet for about four minutes until it stopped again. The same day she spoke

to her neighbour, who lives in the same house. The neighbour had not noticed anything and had slept soundly. However she does not sleep in a waterbed and perhaps therefore had not felt the vibrations strongly enough to be woken up by them.

Sylleskovvej is a traditional residential neighbourhood. After a visit to the area we can find no reason for such a humming that would be noticeable in two houses situated 50 metres apart.

Circle in Ribe clover field

On Sunday 2 June 1996 a farmer in Harreby near Ribe was out mowing his clover field for silage. This involves leaving the grass to lie where it is until the following day when it is taken off to be turned into silage.

The grass is cut and laid into rows with a width of 2.7 metres. There are 3.8 metres between the sides of the rows, where just stumps are left.

When he went out into the field again the next day, he thought at first that the farmhand had been out making mischief with the rake, as there seemed to be a large circle in the field, where the grass had been raked away and formed into a tube that made up the circle. Close up he could see that three holes had been made in the middle of the circle.

When the farmhand denied everything, the farmer got in touch with SUFOI the same day, promising that he would not tell anyone else about it before SUFOI had been there. As the farmer wanted the grass brought back to the farm as soon as possible, he wanted a visit as soon as possible, and on the Thursday was visited by SUFOI's investigator.

The farm is at the end of a dead-end road, and the field lies

a further 500 metres behind the farm. It is a long way to the nearest neighbour or any other roads. There is absolutely no traffic out there apart from the farmer himself.

The circle was situated on one side of a large field. It was oval and measured 17.6 metres by 15.2 metres. The three holes lay 8.7 metres from one of the sides with the longest diameter and 6.0 metres from one of the sides with the short diameter. They were situated almost in the centre of the circle.

Inside the circle 95% of the grass was cut, and only a few single bundles of stalks, typically 50-100, were remaining. The bundles all lay scattered amongst the stubs.

Outside the edge of the circle and in between the rows of cut grass there were no stalks at all, nor any directly behind the tube of grass.

The grass had obviously been pushed or blown back from inside the circle. The grass in the rows that would have been going through the centre of the circle was pushed back and to the side of each row, while the grass in the rows at the edges of the circle was just pushed further out and lay parallel with the row it came from.

When SUFOI's investigator arrived at the scene only the farmer and his farmhand had been there. The stubs of grass stood straight up throughout the circle and were not broken. When SUFOI's investigator and the farmer began to walk around the circle, the stubs broke and the trail was obvious.

The holes in the centre were set in a triangle, spaced at 53cm, 53cm and 44cm from each other. The holes were slightly oval with diameters of 11 x 12cm, 12 x 14cm and 10 x 11cm respectively. The depth was 5cm.

It was obvious that the holes were recently made, as the sides still had fresh, moist

earth. They seemed most probably to have been made with a small piledriver. There were clearly two sharp round impressions opposite each other, and where they met, the earth at the sides of the holes was conical. All together clear signs of a piledriver.

In one of the holes the bottom was a little deeper on one side than on the other. This pattern is found if a piledriver is held slightly crooked while one is digging.

Nowhere were there any marks from landing gear or anything similar in the circle.

Following discussion in the local newspaper Jydske Vestkysten, SUFOI received several reports from people who had seen something inexplicable, but only one of the witnesses had observed something around the time concerned. On the evening of 2 June at 22:30 a witness in Vojens had seen a star-like object, about five times larger than Venus, moving through the clear and cloud-free sky. Through her car wind-screen she saw it fly north-west. She watched it for about five minutes, after which she drove into her driveway. She jumped straight out of the car and ran round to the garden to carry on watching it, but by then the phenomenon had disappeared from the sky. This case could possibly have been due to landing lights from a plane.

If a helicopter had landed in the field at Ribe, it would have left visible marks in the grass, as the earth in the field was not particularly hard. Furthermore a helicopter's rotor would blow the grass out more irregularly, in all directions, and would blow tufts of grass farther away, but there was not one stalk outside the circle between the rows of grass.

If someone set about raking a circle, they would first trample thoroughly on the stubble, so the traces would be seen several days afterwards, and they

would perhaps rake the rows of grass straight back instead of spreading it out into a regular tube all the way around. But obviously everything can be arranged.

The military authorities have stated that they had no flights in the area at that particular time.

The farm is run ecologically. That means that inspectors from the Foulum research station visit every now and then to take samples of the earth. They deny having been on the farm at that time, and add that their normal procedure is to go criss-cross over the field in a special pattern to take 40 earth

samples with a one-inch-thick earth drill. They have absolutely no knowledge of a sampling procedure such as is described above.

Besides that, the holes were made just where the middle row of grass would have lain. If anyone wanted to take samples from such a field, they could just as well take them from between the rows rather than go to the trouble of moving the grass first.

The case is currently unsolved.



Part of the circle in Harreby. Picture: Erling Hegelund



In the centre of the Harreby circle there were three holes. One of them is shown here. Picture: Erling Hegelund

UFO close to car

By Torben
Birkeholm



On page 4 we briefly reported the dramatic stopping of a car, where a large disc with a powerful light hovered over the vehicle. The event took place on 29 September 1995. Here follows a detailed description of the incident based on the witness's written report and thorough investigation, including an intensive interview.

Car stops

It was Friday evening. A 24-year-old man was driving southward from Brande towards Vejle, on his way to visit his parents. He was driving a 1981 BMW 320 and his only company was his dog, a Black Labrador, that was laying on the back seat.

It was dark, but the weather was dry and clear. The temper-

ature outside was over 10°C, and there was hardly any traffic. He had passed Give and was approaching a left turn in a forest area called Smidstrup Krat and Tykhøje Krat.

He slowed down and drove past a side road on the right that leads to Billund. As he turned left his speed was approximately 60 km an hour. The car's clock was showing 21.30, when suddenly he saw the speedometer shoot straight round to maximum and the other instruments began going wild.

All the instruments were swinging up and down; the rev. gauge went all the way up to maximum and the thermometer shot up into the red, where the needle stood vibrating. At the same time the windscreen wipers started going at great speed - and they were not even

turned on! In bewilderment he tried flicking the wiper switch, but this had no effect.

The dog started to become agitated on the back seat, and he had to tell it to lie down. As he approached a lay-by on the right he noticed that the car's headlights were also behaving oddly - they were changing in strength - and that the engine had started to misfire.

It was as though it was "drowning"; as if the engine was getting too much fuel.

He tried to keep some life in it and pumped repeatedly on the accelerator, but to no avail. Finally the engine went completely dead and the car came to a stop - in complete darkness - out in the middle of the country road.

Light from above

While he nervously peered through the windscreen and glanced repeatedly in the rear-view mirror, for fear of any cars that might be approaching, he tried immediately to re-start the car. He turned the ignition key, but nothing happened. The ignition light did not come on, there was no power; everything was dead.

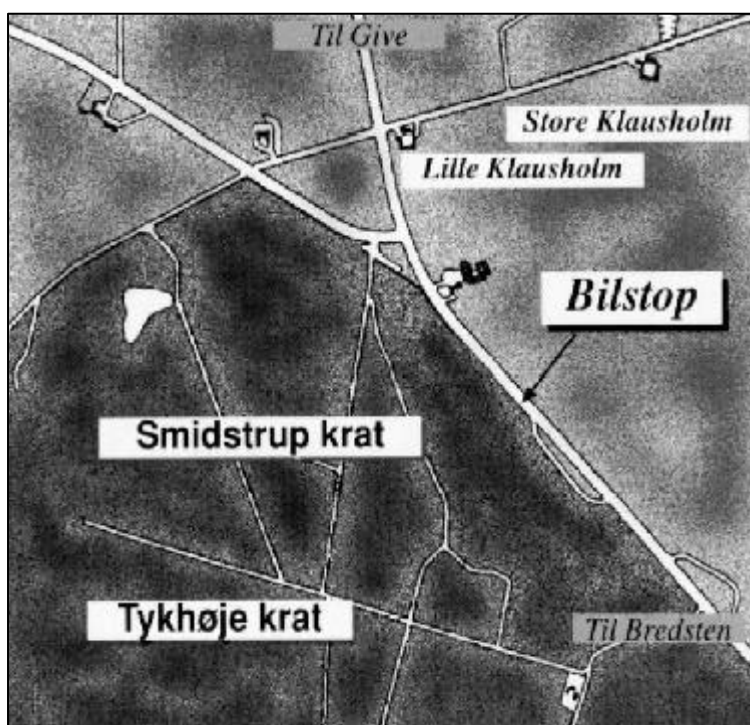
But he noticed that the car's clock was faintly lit. To his amazement it was not showing the time, but 88.88.88! He felt as if time had stopped as he tried several times to start the car. There must be a small current if the light is on, he thought. But there was no current.

After three or four fruitless attempts he suddenly noticed a strange, oppressive sensation "from above", like some sort of physical influence that was hard to describe.

Apart from the restless dog it was completely quiet, and he looked around in astonishment while at the same time trying to start the car yet again. Less than twenty seconds had now passed since the first unusual activity.

Without warning - and without a sound - an enormously

Map: Henrik
Klinge
Pedersen



powerful light practically “exploded” over the vehicle. The light came from above, and it was blinking or pulsing quickly at regular intervals.

He saw the light through the windscreen, looked up and saw a huge disc above him. He was scared, but immediately opened the door, put his left foot on the road and leaned halfway out, his left hand on top of the door and his right hand on the steering wheel.

At the same time he looked up and round to see what it was that was hanging overhead, and how big it was. When the light appeared the dog became very scared; whining and trying to hide itself. It actually tried to “bury” itself under the front seat, but obviously had to give up. There was no room.

The light source

The light was dazzling and he had to squint to see anything. He saw a large disc, 12-15 metres in diameter, just three or four metres above the car. The disc’s outer edge was dark against the background of the starry sky. A little further in he could see a number of concentric circles of light, which were closer together the nearer they were to the centre of the disc.

Each light-circle consisted of “lamps” that were equally spaced all the way around. Each “lamp” consisted of two circles, like a bulb in the middle of a reflector. The light itself seemed like neon and each “lamp” shone as brightly as a halogen lamp.

Near the centre of the disc the light was so powerful that it was not possible to make out any details. He could not see whether there was one big “lamp” in the centre or just a lot of the small ones close together. He noticed that the light’s boundary was very sharply defined. It went straight down, rather than spreading

out to the sides as normal. The circumference of the light field on the ground corresponded to the circumference of the disc above him.

Shortly afterwards, as he sat back inside and shut the door, he saw that the light was illuminating the whole road on both sides of the car, including the verges but no further. As before it was very sharply defined. The road at that point was wider than usual, because an extra lane had been added to cater for motorists wanting to turn off towards Billund.

The colour of the light was white and indigo, somewhat reminiscent of the light from a welding torch, but not nearly as strong. It was “quivering” in a strange fashion.

The light gets dimmer and the disc moves

He rolled down the window and put his arm and head outside. He looked up again, but kept a look out for any cars coming from behind. He turned his head back several times rather than use the mirror.

After a short time he pulled himself back in the car, and now

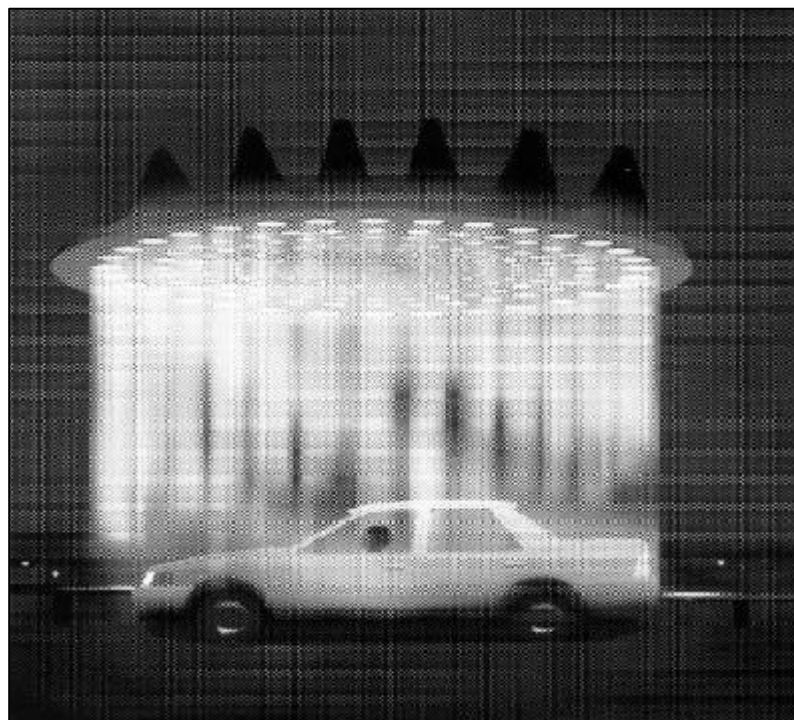
he saw that the intensity of the light was slowly diminishing - as if one were “turning the light down”. A moment later it was as weak as a car’s indicator light, but it continued to blink or “quiver”.

He looked out through the windscreen and saw that the disc was slowly moving forwards to somewhere ahead of him. It carried on towards the trees nearby, still very low down, and as it reached the first trees it literally had to “tip” its left-hand side up to avoid them. It carried on with a faint light and disappeared out of sight in a matter of a few seconds, still without a sound.

Seen from the side

As the disc glided towards the front of the car he could see that it was not flat. It looked peculiar, with something like “triangles” or “spikes” which he estimates were approximately one third of the disc’s diameter, or about three metres high.

He was not sure where to draw the line between “spikes” and “triangles”, but he noticed that the outer edges were rounded off, like a parasol.



Based on the witness's report SUFOI's artist Henrik Klinge Pedersen has produced this impression of the object's appearance.

The disc had "tipped" its left side up by at least 20 degrees, and he could see the underside at the same time. He could not tell whether it righted itself again before it went out of sight.

The car starts

He sat in the dark again, still in the middle of the road. The dog was still very agitated, and he tried to quieten it down while he collected himself after what had happened.

After a while, maybe three or four minutes after the disc had disappeared, he turned the ignition key to check whether there was any power. The headlights came on and he noticed straight away that the digital clock stood at 21.31. He turned the key completely; the engine started immediately, the light was normal and all the instruments were functioning normally.

He was still afraid - his legs were shaking - but he drove off. For a while he did not drive over 70km an hour, but he speeded up when he had calmed down a little.

After driving 35 km he reached his parents' home and immediately told them what had happened. The experience was still affecting him and he was shaking. His parents asked him to contact someone; there must be some "UFO people" he could ring. But he was too frightened and upset and did not phone anyone.

Enter SUFOI

The witness also told a friend about the experience, who likewise urged him to report the case. He thought the matter over a lot, but could not bring himself to contact anyone. Some weeks later he saw the Danish TV2 Reportage Team documentary about SUFOI and

IGAP, and a few days afterwards he phoned SUFOI.

A UFO report form was immediately sent out to the man, and when it came back it was clear that it dealt with a Close Encounter of the Second Kind. A meeting was arranged and a lengthy interview was recorded on tape.

At the same time the local press was contacted; Vejle Amts Folkeblad has subsequently covered the case in several lengthy articles, and Danmarks Radio and Kanal 94 in Vejle have broadcast an interview with SUFOI's investigator on the case.

Witnesses?

The press was also used to trace witnesses to the incident. SUFOI received a number of responses from local residents regarding various sightings, but there was no "star witness" who could be tied in with the car's stopping. One sighting, however, did occur the same evening, only a few kilometres from where the car stopped. Around 19.20 a young couple were standing in the kitchen on a farm. The woman was standing facing the window which looked out over the farmyard. Suddenly a beam of light appeared from above and shone down onto some flagstones in the farmyard in front of the window.

The beam of light was very sharply defined and around one metre in diameter, also on the area where it hit the flagstones. The light beam did not move and after about five seconds the woman drew her friend's attention to it. He was standing with his back to the window, but managed to turn round in time to see the light for about three seconds before it vanished. The duration was about ten seconds in all.

The farmyard is surrounded by high trees, so the couple ex-

cluded things such as light from neighbouring properties as an explanation. They did not go outside.

It was obviously not possible to tie this case in with the car stopping, as there were several hours between the two incidents and the second light beam was much smaller, but it is obviously an interesting sighting.

Duration

How long did the whole event with the car last? In the original written report the young man states that it lasted 30 seconds, maybe longer. During the interview he was asked to state the duration of each phase of the incident, and later so-called "blind tests" were carried out.

He was asked to close his eyes and recall the events while being timed. Without being told the result, he was asked once again to close his eyes and try to re-live each phase in turn. The results of these accounts are shown here.

It is amazing that the two blind tests are so close together. It could be pure coincidence, but could also suggest a genuine sighting. Note that the witness originally stated a duration of at least 30 seconds, and that his verbal account of the various phases lasts a good minute. It would seem reasonable to say that the duration of the entire incident lies somewhere between 30 and 60 seconds.

Is that a little or a lot? Try timing it yourself - a lot can happen in that time, and a great number of details can be noted.

The witness

The 24-year-old man lives in Aalborg, where he is a student nurse. He originally comes from around Vejle, where he has many acquaintances who

interest themselves in the UFO phenomenon in their spare time. He has himself heard about UFO sightings, read about them in newspapers - not books - and seen TV programmes on the subject. He has also seen the film Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

He comes across as a surprised and honest person who gives no impression of being other than very normal.

He has spoken further about his thoughts in connection to the experience. He especially noticed the strange 'oppressive' feeling just before the light appeared. In a way it was like just before a thunderstorm, but very physical. Just as the light appeared he noticed a sort of "pleasant" feeling that he has never experienced before. He was afraid but nevertheless did not feel "threatened" in any way. He felt that it was not anything that wanted to harm him.

While the light was there it seemed as though "time stood still" in the space where the light was. At the same time it was unbelievably quiet; he found it striking and totally incomprehensible that there was not the slightest sound, despite the enormous "machine" hovering just above him.

He also felt as if he should "go up". In any case he imagined that it might happen, but the thought did not frighten him. In fact he hoped that more would happen - that "someone" or "something" would come and show itself. He wanted to know what it was, and felt in some way "drawn" to the disc above him.

While it was there he did not notice any sort of heat from the intense light. On the contrary, he felt a sort of 'coldness' (it was also chilly outside), which he could compare a little to a feeling from his practical work at a hospital. He had recently been on practical training in a department with an NMR scanner

Phases	Own statement	Blind test: with phases	Blind test: complete sighting
1st phase: from the car behaving strangely until the light appears	20 sec.	15 sec.	
2nd phase: from leaning out to when he shuts the door again	20 sec.	11 sec.	
3rd phase: rolling down the window, looking up and out, until the light begins to dim	10 sec.	5 sec.	
4th phase: light dims to lowest level, disc moves forward and away	10 sec.	11 sec.	
Total time:	62 sec.	42 sec.	41 sec.

(which produces a powerful magnetic field). There one feels that one's body seems to be registering something unusual. He imagined in fact that the powerful light was taking some sort of "photograph" of him.

The case is not closed

SUFOI has not succeeded in tracing other witnesses through the local media. We have considered ringing doorbells in the area, or using the national media in the hope of finding a motorist from out of the area, who from a distance might have noticed the light or even the "disc".

Furthermore we need answers to a number of technical questions concerning the car. What level of current is required to activate the digital clock, and under what circumstances will it show 88.88.88? It would be interesting to clear up what physical conditions can make the instruments behave as described. The car should definitely have been examined by qualified technicians immediately after the incident. However this was not possible, due

to the time that had elapsed before SUFOI became involved and because it would be a costly affair.

We need a report from the location of the sighting. It has not yet been possible to arrange any sort of reconstruction of the car stopping at the place itself, where we could take various measurements of the road's width, the disc's apparent size and so on.

Moreover as work on the case has progressed a number of questions have arisen that require further interviews with the witness. The young man has made himself available to SUFOI throughout the investigation, and it is only the fact that the investigators must use their spare time that is delaying bringing the case to a full conclusion.

SUFOI New's readers will be informed of any important developments in the case.

Twenty minutes that shook Funen

Af Erling
Hegelund



On 31 August 1995 at 9:40 pm panic spread among a lot of people in a large area on Funen.

A retired senior lecturer at a college of education: "It was hovering above the courtyard. The neighbour was called and we both saw it. For twenty minutes it flew back and forth in the garden and sort of watched us. Then it followed us when we walked towards the station and disappeared. We were pretty scared and it took me a day to recover from it."

A house wife: "As I drove home in my car, it followed me and stopped when I drove off the highway. When it was closest to the car, it was only a couple of metres away; I felt sort of driven towards it. I wasn't scared. The entire horse pen and the tree next to the road were lit although it was dark."

"The horses stayed in a corner of the pen all night even though they usually go into the stable. They seemed to be in some sort of trance when the object was a couple of metres above them. The next day they were still in the same sort of shock. You could move a hand right in front of their eyes and they didn't react. The dog was acting strange too while it happened. When it disappeared there was a red half-moon light a kilometre to the west for a while."

Mrs A.C.: "At first we thought that the chimney was smoking but then we saw that it was a greyish object which was hanging above the house."

Mrs D.C.: "It was hanging 7 to 8 metres above the roof of our house and 20 to 30 lights were

shining down on the tile. You could see the reflection."

Mr. J.J.: "I was looking out of the window and saw an object with bright lights hanging above the garden. It moved towards the sport area and after a short period it came back; finally it flew up and disappeared. Twenty years ago I also saw a UFO at Blangstedgård; then, the car stopped and I was sweating from fear. This time I wasn't scared."

Mr. H.P.: "The object was above the field and I don't think that it was more than 150 metres above the ground."

A farm assistant: "As I drove home it was so far down that I had to get out of the car to see the entire object."

Reports were pouring in about strange lights seen in Odense S, Ringe, Årslev, Kværndrup, Korinth and Fåborg. Everybody said the same thing: the glowing object was almost on the ground often only a few metres up. Two rings were visible with bright lights and everything was rotating slowly while it flew.

UFO invasion or what? Yes, until proven otherwise.

The first calls clearly described laser light and I told the witnesses that that was probably what it was. That night and the next day people called in and described the same thing but the witnesses said they knew laser light and this was something else; it was low down and lit things on the ground. And in some cases it had followed them.

I decided to visit a couple of witnesses and at both places I got very good explanations of

the incidents. The locals told me that lasers had been used at a rock concert in Gislev some days earlier and that "Café - Diskotek 54" in Ringe used lasers every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

I talked to someone in a sign shop next to the disco and was told that the lasers had run every weekend for more than a month. You could see the machine on the flat roof of the disco pointing towards the sky.

"Aha a UFO producer! Very nice, now this case is solved." The only problem was that it had been on for maybe 12 nights the past month; why did people not panic until this night between 9:40 and 10 pm?

Some of the witnesses said that the next night they could see the usual foggy spots in the sky and the light beam, but what was different in those 20 minutes?

All the witnesses describe the lights in the same way. Two rings with bright lights and everything was spinning. In addition to this it swung from side to side in a half circle and some saw it swing 25 to 30 times back and forth. The spin direction of the phenomenon changed after every extreme. It was very likely that it was a laser.

The explanation could be that during this particular period a special atmosphere passed over Funen. A mixture which could make a very powerful reflection of the light so that the light was thrown onto the ground and all in all trick people into feeling that in some cases they were in the middle of the light.

It could have been a warm front. Light will break in up a stratum of air in which the density is changed. When a warm front passes there will be cold air at the bottom and warm air a little higher up. Some times the warm air can flatten out and lay as a cover on the cold air (inversion layer) and with this seem like some kind of mirror.

In the desert this makes fata morganas in which an oasis can be reflected in the hot air in the atmosphere and then be seen as a perfect picture of the oasis in the air even though it might be 50 kilometres away.

Another possibility is the forming of ice crystals some kilometres up maybe in connection to a cold front. It was very characteristic that the phenomenon in every sighting disappeared at approximately 10 pm while the laser was on till late in the night. In any case it is a rare coincidence and the first time I heard of this in connection with lasers. I have not found an explanation for the red half moon.

Triangle over Glostrup

One Thursday evening, after an enjoyable game of darts in the pub, Kent R. was on his way home with a friend around 22.30 on 1 November 1990. On the way Kent was looking up at the sky, which he was in a habit of doing. He spotted five lights, each of which looked like a small 'angle'. The five lights were positioned with one at the top and two on each side, so that they formed a triangle.

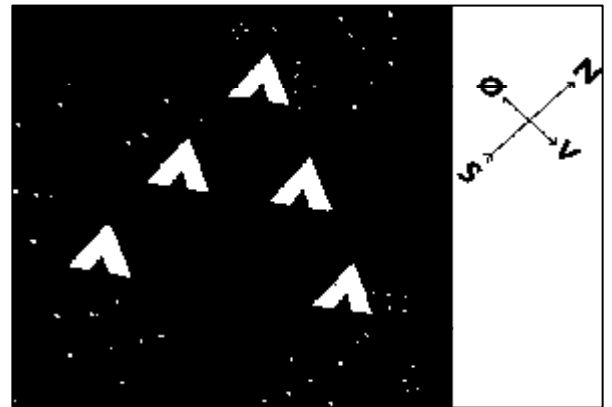
Both Kent and his friend saw the phenomenon, and Kent believes that he could make out a black shadow between the lights. That was how he perceived it, as it seemed as if the object was obscuring the stars as it gradually moved through the sky. The entire object appeared to be somewhat larger than the full moon.

The lights first came into sight in the south-west and the phenomenon was moving straight towards them. It passed straight over their heads

without a sound and continued towards the north-east. Kent has no real idea how high up the phenomenon was. When it had passed them it moved off over a nearby laundry. Finally it tipped upwards, accelerated and disappeared.

Kent first contacted SUFOI at the end of 1995, after seeing a television programme about UFOs. It has not been possible to get in touch with his friend, and SUFOI has nothing to go on regarding what the phenomenon could be.

The witness's drawing of the phenomenon seen over Glostrup at 22.30 on 1 November 1990.



Fata Morgana 1967?

It was a very hot July day. The weather was clear and calm. It was 1967. It was 8:30 pm and Leif was inside his tent in the camp by Stevns. He heard a strange humming and wondered what it could be. Therefore he went to the water where he, with other campers, looked out on the water. The strange humming seemed to come from there.

There was also a strange cloud in the sky. It was changing shape, and turned into two hemispheres which had been squashed flat. The phenomenon was metallic grey and had different colours like reflections in a mirror. There were some squares on the top ball. It was big - really big. Leif compared it to a Great Belt ferry.

The phenomenon slowly floated north while the witness stared amazed. It all lasted about a minute, until the phenomenon very quickly

accelerated vertically in the air and disappeared. The sound also disappeared.

Some years later, when Leif returned to the camp, he met some of his friends from back then. When he asked them about the incident they couldn't remember at first, but slowly the memories came back. No-one dared to guess what it could have been.

SUFOI's comments: Most characteristics fit a "fata morgana" - an air reflection. The quiet warm weather, the sighting over water and the mirror-like appearance points in this direction very strongly.

The witness, Leif, also agrees on this. The only thing left is the strange humming which according to our records hasn't occurred before in connection with a fata morgana.

If anyone has an explanation with this we would like to hear from you.

By Per Andersen

Danish reports from 1994

By Toke
Haunstrup



SUFOI has taken stock of the sightings from 1994. In that year SUFOI received 199 reports. Of these, eight can be classified as UFOs. The reports are collected and examined by SUFOI's investigators over the whole country. After final analysis the reports are filed at SUFOI's Report Centre.

Some statistics

By 1 January 1995 we had received in all 199 sighting reports from 1994. Compared to 1993 this is a reduction of 17%. It is worth noting that we remain substantially above the level at the end of the 80s. For example, 1989 produced only 42 reports.

Figure 1 shows the wide variation in the number of sight-

ings per year over the last ten years.

If we look a little closer at the year 1994, **Figure 2** shows how the sightings are distributed over the months. May comes top with 28 reports, while September hits the all-time low with only 4 reports! The number is seen to vary considerably from month to month.

From experience we know that the variations partly correspond to the media's interest in the subject. When there is a lot of discussion about UFOs, this typically results in an increased number of reports.

The 199 sightings from 1994 are categorised as shown in **Table 1**.

The group of identified reports consists of all the cases for which we could confidently give a natural explanation. It can be seen that this group accounts for 57% of the reports.

Insufficient data consists of the reports where there either has not been enough data to arrive at an unambiguous conclusion, or where there have not been the resources to carry

out a thorough investigation. This group accounts for slightly more than one third of all the sightings.

This leaves just 8 reports that we have been able to investigate further and that remain unidentified. These UFO reports account for 4% of the total.

With regard to the 113 reports we have been able to explain, **Table 2** shows which phenomena are responsible for these reports.

Note that the percentages in the rightmost column indicate how large a part of the total number of reports is made up, for example, by spotlights or lasers.

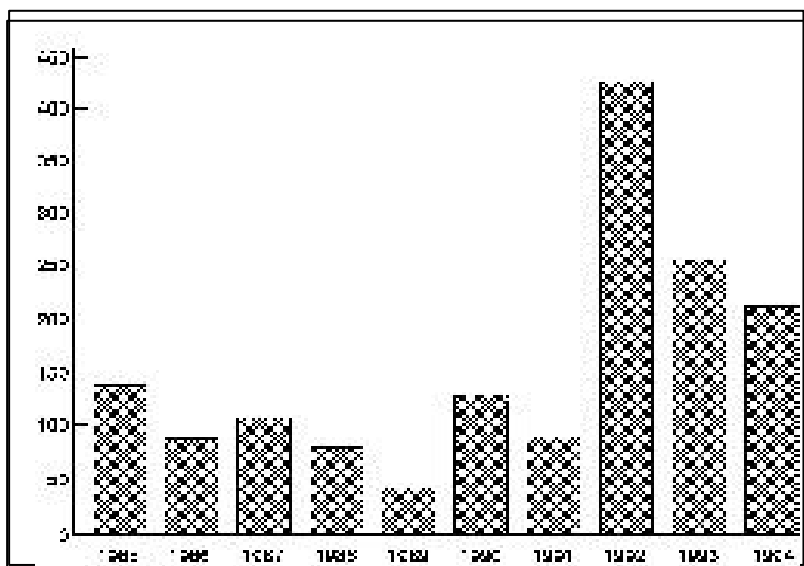
As seen in **Table 2**, spotlights, meteors and planes are the most common explanations. Together they constitute just over one third of the reports to SUFOI.

Over the last five years spotlights and lasers have become a very commonplace phenomenon and are often seen in connection with town festivals or publicity events. Typically one or more spotlights are shone at the sky while they move around in different patterns. (See also the article *Twenty minutes that shook Funen*, page 16.)

Table 1

	Number	%
Identified	113	57%
Insufficient data	78	39%
Unidentified	8	4%
Total	199	100%

Fig. 1: Graph showing the distribution of sightings over the last ten years.



The UFO reports

Table 3 is an overview of the eight reports to which it has been possible to assign the designation "UFO".

Below we give a short description of all the UFO sightings.

28.01.94, 5000 Odense C: A woman awoke at 03:14 DNT

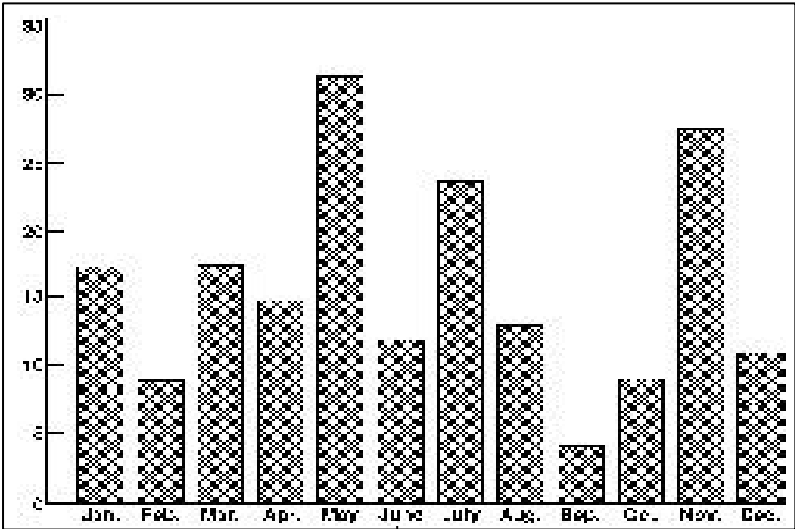


Fig .2: Graph showing the monthly distribution of sightings from 1994.

because of a strong, dazzling golden light in the bedroom. Through the window she saw a powerful light slowly moving past.

14.02.94, 5520 Odense SØ: A woman experienced her bedroom being brightly lit up around 03.45. Through the window she observed a powerful round light that slowly moved away.

17.02.94, 9000 Aalborg: A man was looking at the stars and around 23:00 DNT caught sight of a “hazy” and motionless phenomenon in Karlsvognen. The phenomenon disappeared behind a bank of clouds after around 30 minutes.

04.04.94, 9210 Aalborg SØ: An amateur astronomer observed at 01:05 DST three lights moving across the sky. One of the lights suddenly changed position in relation to the two other lights.

08.05.94, 5540 Ullerslev: A pensioner heard a whistling noise and looked up. He caught sight of a blue-black object that moved low over some nearby cornfields. The phenomenon moved from side to side and passed under some electricity cables.

27.06.94, 2610 Rødovre: A woman in a taxi observed two lights moving through the sky. The lights changed altitude and swapped position.

15.11.94, 4773 Stensved: A pensioner was woken by a

strange noise. He got out of bed and looked out of the bedroom window, whereupon he caught sight of a sharp beam of light that lit up the pavement outside. The light faded and disappeared after 4-5 seconds.

Flashes of light in
Gevninge

Gevninge is a small town app. 10 km west of Roskilde.

On Thursday 28 April 1994 a 35-year-old woman (LKH) took her dog for an evening walk. After returning home again LKH locked the dog out in the garden; the time was around 21:45 DST.

Immediately afterwards the dog began to bark, and when LKH opened the door the dog ran inside and hid in the living room. At the same time LKH saw a flash of light above the garden and could hear a “snick-

ering” and noticed a “tingling” on her skin. She compared it to the static electricity that can be felt on the skin when one moves one’s hand over a television screen.

The experience affected LKH so strongly that she hurried inside and pulled down the blinds. After a while she looked outside again but noticed nothing unusual. The experience itself lasted just 5 seconds.

It transpired later that LKH’s upstairs neighbour could confirm the incident, as he had also noticed a number of flashes. However the neighbour had not heard any noise.

SUFOI’s local investigator, Lennart Pedersen, has spoken to both LKH and her neighbour and examined the surrounding

Table 2		
	Number	%
Spotlight/laser	41	21%
Meteor	29	15%
Plane	21	11%
Star	8	4%
Planet	8	4%
Other	6	3%
Total	113	57%

area. There is no power station or anything similar in the vicinity of the residence that can explain the incident.

The phenomenon’s character seems however to point in the direction of some type of electrical discharge. SUFOI has not been able to arrive at a more precise explanation in this case, which is filed as unsolved.

Table 3				
Date of sighting	Time of sighting	Duration	Place of sighting	Reported in UFO-Nyt
28.01.01	Ca. 03.14 DNT	Ca. 5 min.	5000 Odense C	No. 3/94, page 6
14.02.94	Ca. 03.45 DNT	Ca. 5 min.	5220 Odense SØ	No. 3/94, page 6
17.02.94	Ca. 23.00 DNT	30 min.	9000 Aalborg	No. 1/95, page 4
04.04.94	01.05 DST	5-15 sec.	9210 Aalborg SØ	No. 2/95, page 5
28.04.94	Ca. 21.45 DST	5 sec.	Gevninge 4000 Roskilde	
08.05.94	Ca. 09.10 DST	30 sec.	5540 Ullerslev	No. 3/94, page 7
27.06.94	23.15 DST	Ca. 20 sec.	2610 Rødovre	No. 3/95, page 3
15.11.94	Ca. 04.45 DNT	4-5 sec.	4773 Stensved	No. 1/95, page 5

New Danish photographic cases

By Kim Møller Hansen



SUFOI is frequently sent visual material showing "something" that the sender has found mysterious. Here we look closer at three photographic cases that are typical of the material we receive for investigation.

Nykøbing Mors, January 1996

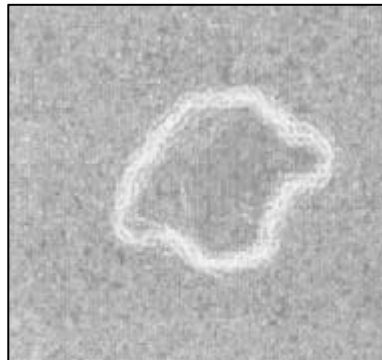
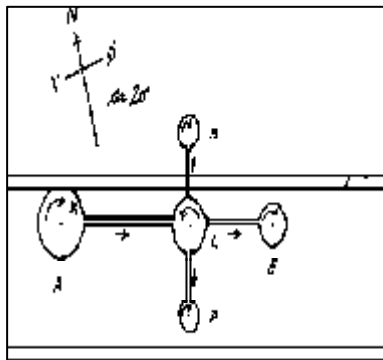
In February we received a colour print of some original negatives from Jørgen W. Lehmann in Nykøbing Mors. On the colour print can be seen a dark object above the roof of a summer house. In his letter Lehmann points out that he did

not see the object when the picture was taken, just as the object does not appear on other pictures from the same area and time. In addition Lehmann emphasises in his letter that the object may be a fault on the film, but that he would like SUFOI to confirm it.

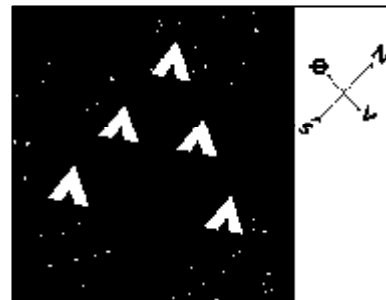
The material was immediately sent for examination by SUFOI's photographic consultant Hans Bødker. After a thorough examination of both the colour print and the original negative, Bødker can confirm that a dust particle on the surface of the film had blocked out the light when the picture was taken.



Jørgen W. Lehmann's evocative winter scene with the "object" above the house.
Photo case: 1996-01-00-240



These two scans of the "object" show that it is asymmetric with sharp edges. A control scan of part of the summer house has shown that the "object" is too sharp and contrasted in relation to the rest of the picture to have been created optically.
Picture: SUFOI Picture Library



Powerful enlargement of the "object". With a magnifying glass it can be seen on the negative that the "object" is brown coloured, which is characteristic of cases when dirt or dust particles on the emulsion itself has blocked the light during an exposure.
Picture: SUFOI Picture Library

Short and sweet

Unfortunately from time to time we receive so little information that it is impossible to investigate the visual material any further. Once in 1995 we received an interesting colour print together with a scrap of paper (sent from 8693 Auning), which in its entirety went like this:

"I don't know what it is, or where and when I took this pic-



What can you do with a photograph like this?
Photo case: 1995-00-00-241

ture, so explain it! Thanks! PS It's probably not a UFO."

Vadehavet, November 1993

On 23 November 1993 Elin Damgård took a number of pictures out over Vadehavet near Emmerlev Klev in South Jutland. The pictures were taken just after sunset, and Elin Damgård saw nothing unusual in the sky. When the pictures were developed, on one them there was a shiny, box-shaped object in the upper right corner.

Elin Damgård has kindly lent us the original negative, and after close study of this and the colour print we are of the opinion that the object is a reflection inside the camera lens.



The black and white reproduction here in UFO News does no justice to Elin Damgård's beautiful colour photograph. The shiny object in the right corner is a reflection caused by a light source located out of the field of view at the bottom left (the light source cannot be seen in the picture). (Photo case: 1993-11-23-221)

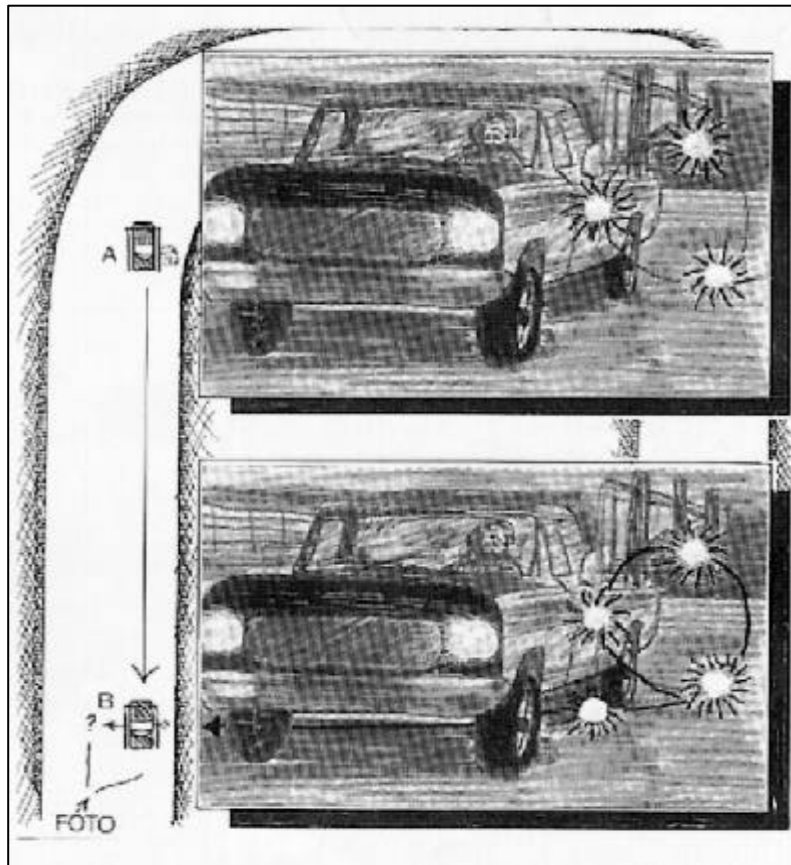
The light on the trotting course

The third lap of Billund Trotting Course had just been completed. The starting car was driving slowly towards the judges' stand. But what was that? Flying next to the car was a small, glowing ball...

The witness, a professional photographer who wishes to remain anonymous, tells the story:

"At first it looked like a bright flashlight dangling about on a string, but it couldn't be that as the light was too constant. When the car stopped by the judges' stand the light stopped as well, and my reaction was that it must be a ball, like the 'floating ball' you see in magic shows.

"The object then slowly moved horizontally under the car, and I woke up and ran round to the other side of the vehicle and took a photograph when the object appeared again.



By Kim Møller Hansen

The small ball of light follows the starting car from A to B over a distance of 250 m. At B the car stops and lets the boy out. The photographer also takes his picture here. Drawing: Henrik Klinge Pedersen



From the Photo Department



According to the photographer the ball has just passed underneath the car. It is not possible to see any shadows from the ball, nor is the ground lit up by the ball of light.

SUFOI
Photographic
Case No.
1989-08-03-
211

This print of the original negative shows (almost) the entire surface of the picture. On the picture the diagonals are drawn in so that the optical centre can be located (above the right front wheel). Notice also that at the top of the picture several other reflections can be seen.

"When the car stopped, the boy (there were guests in the starting car) jumped out and ran across the track. In the picture it looks as if he's running away, but that isn't the case. He's just hurrying over to his mother and father. After the picture was taken, and before I had got the camera away from my eye, the object was gone. I have no idea how it disappeared."

The incident occurred on Thursday 3 August 1989 between 22:04 and 22:05 on Billund Trotting Course. The photographer describes the phenomenon as a soundless, white/yellowish ball, about the size of a tennis ball or an apple, with a distinct corona. The ball followed the starting car at a speed of 25-30 kph over a distance of around 250 metres and moved against the wind!

When it became apparent that the photographer had managed to get a picture of the phenomenon, he set to work investigating whether the patch of light could be a reflection. He took a great number of photographs of the scene from exactly the same position, without finding any reflections on the control exposures. Faults in the film were also ruled out.

One thing puzzled the photographer. The Nikon camera used has a very high exposure rate when a motor is used. Only one picture was taken, whereas he usually takes two

or three pictures with the motor attached. The photographer thinks that he must have unknowingly released the trigger very quickly, so that only one photograph of the ball was taken.

SUFOI's photographic consultant Hans Bødker visited the scene immediately after the incident, where he interviewed the photographer and took the original photographic material for further analysis. In light of Bødker's analysis we could not decide in 1989 what the picture showed. The case was therefore reported in UFO-Nyt No. 4, 1989, as unsolved.

Many unsolved cases rattle around in the back of the heads of the people involved, and then suddenly one day we are possibly closer to a solution to the riddle. That is also true in this case.

Hans Bødker has closely studied the original negative and taken measurements of the entire surface of the picture. When the diagonals are drawn in, the optical centre is found at the point where they cross. It can be seen that a straight line drawn through the right headlight and the optical centre also goes through the patch of light. The distance from the headlight to the optical centre is identical to the distance between the optical centre and the patch of light. This simple measurement shows beyond

doubt that the light from the car's right headlight is being reflected in the camera's lens and creating the patch of light.

A computer analysis, which SUFOI later had carried out by GSW in the USA, confirms the reflection theory.

What about the photographer's UFO report? How does it hang together with the picture of the reflection? Here are a few possibilities:

The photographer did not see anything unusual. Only when the film was developed did he notice a strange patch of light. He invented the UFO report to fit the picture.

The photographer did actually observe a flying, glowing ball. He tried to photograph it, but it disappeared without his knowledge. Instead he had a reflection on the film and afterwards believed it to be the ball. The photographer has both seen the ball and photographed it. The patch in the picture shows the ball and not a reflection, even though all the analysis suggests otherwise.

SUFOI cannot decide which explanation is correct, but we have no reason to believe that the photographer has invented the UFO report. In view of our knowledge of the photographer together with our and GSW's analysis of the original material, we consider possibility 2 to be the most reasonable.



Two suns over the Faeroe Islands in 1667

There has throughout history been a great number of observations of unexplained phenomena on the Faeroe Islands. Among these was one, all the way back in 1667, that could be classed as a UFO sighting. Two suns were seen in the sky by Samuel Pofelsen, Erlender Andersen and Synneve Joensdatter, together with other inhabitants of Eldevig.

This sighting was recorded by Lucas Jacobsen Debes in the book *Færoæ & færoa reserata*, the oldest surviving collection of works about the Faeroe Islands, first published in 1673. Debes was born and raised in Denmark, but went to the Faeroe Islands in 1651, where he worked as a priest in Thorshavn until his death in 1675. He was therefore familiar with the period's prevailing theological viewpoint, which was that anything inexplicable that cannot be attributed to God must originate from the Devil. This point of view was also vehemently expressed in the report dealing with the observation of the two suns.

The man in luminous clothes

The whole thing began when a 24-year-old man with the name Jacob Olesen, from Gjov, fell ill. After he had been bedridden for about two weeks, he was woken up during the night of 20 January 1667 by a young man, dressed in shining clothes that lit up the whole room, speaking to him. The man asked whether he was in any pain. When Jacob did not answer, the man in glittering clothes laid his hand on Jacob's breast, whereupon he immediately became well. After this the stranger recited a prayer, which

he asked Jacob to teach to the island's other inhabitants so that they could worship God with it. Finally the man disappeared up the chimney.

Five days later, early in the morning before it was light, Jacob was woken by an inner voice that said he should go outside. He obeyed the voice and when he went outside he saw



towards the south-west that the sky was open. Down from it came the stranger. He said that he was doing this to show Jacob that he came from God, whereupon he disappeared again.

A further two days later, on the night of 27 January, Jacob received his third visit. He was lying awake when the stranger came down the chimney and asked Jacob if he had seen a sign in the sky. To that Jacob replied that he had not seen anything himself, but referred to the aforementioned incident, where inhabitants of Eldevig had seen two suns on the horizon. The stranger then said that it was not two suns, but a sign from God.

He then disappeared in the same way he had arrived.

After this episode Jacob received a further two visits, the central point to which was the stranger's assertion that he was Saint Johannes.

The work of the Devil

As was mentioned earlier, Debes, from whom this story originates, was strongly influenced by his period's prevailing viewpoint that what does not originate from God must come from Satan. Debes emphasised that in 1668, the year after these events took place, Parliament found Jacob guilty of adultery. As he was therefore a great sinner, God could not possibly have revealed himself to him. From this Debes concluded that it must have been the Devil at work.

With our modern picture of the world we raise a smile at Debes' interpretation and arguments, but are we actually very much wiser today? We live in a century where the exploration of outer space attracts great attention. Consequently every time something inexplicable happens we have a tendency to conclude that it must have been the work of beings from outer space. In reality we are just doing the same as Debes; imposing our own world view on the unexplained.

Since the dawn of history significantly more people have been convinced that they have met gods, demons, angels or other un-earthly creatures, than there have been people who have seen flying saucers. The fact is this: the only thing we can say with certainty is that we don't know what it is we are seeing.

By Michael Jensen

Lolland crop circles - again

By Ole Henningsen



Artwork and photographs:
Ole Henningsen

The airship Spirit of Fuji during landing at Lolland-Falster Airport.

The crop circle phenomenon at Holeby on Lolland, July 1996, photographed from the airship Spirit of Fuji.

In July pilots noticed a crop circle phenomenon at Holeby on Lolland - the same place as the previous year. Shortly afterwards another crop circle was discovered near Maribo. SUFOI's local investigator believes that intelligent beings from Earth have been at work - again!

Unfortunately I must admit that my plans for the day were not exactly based on mysterious markings in a cornfield

Spirit of Fuji, in the air over mid-Lolland.

Spirit of Fuji

The airship Spirit of Fuji is 58 metres long and contains 6,429 cubic metres of helium. Its flying altitude is normally from 300 metres to around 2 km, with a speed of 40-80 kph. There is room for eight people in the small cabin beneath the airship



itself, including the pilot. The propulsion is looked after by two propeller engines behind the cabin. The essential ground crew of a score of people, including an extra pilot, with their 12 campers and a huge 24-ton four-wheel-drive lorry, makes up an entire circus convoy that follows the airship on its promotional journey around the world.

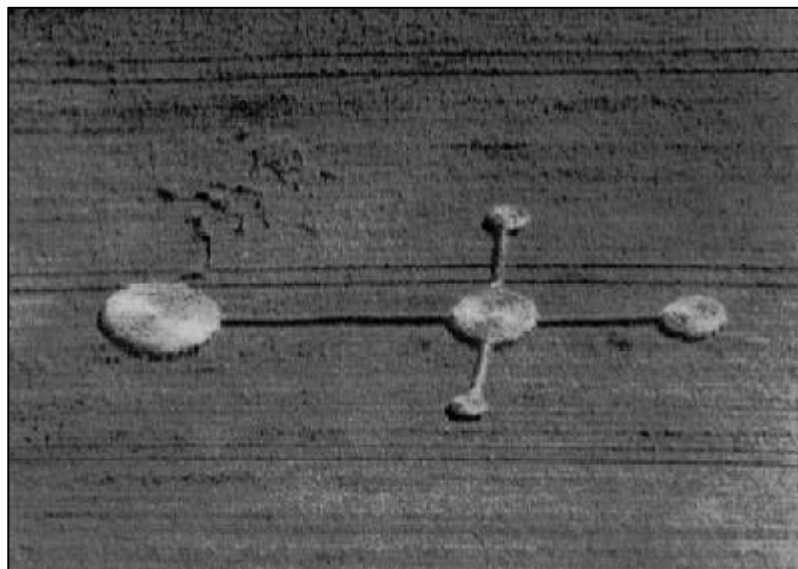
Ropes hang from the front of the airship. At a given signal during landing the ground crew grab hold of them and keep the craft in place until the passengers have disembarked or the final parking for the night has been carried out. This is done by attaching the nose of the craft to a telescopic mast carried by a large lorry, which is parked with solid supporting legs in each corner.

By airship over Lolland

The trip would probably last 20-25 minutes, which would give us time to fly from Lolland-Falster Airport over to Holeby,

when I was contacted by the editor Jørgen Martinson from the Rødby office of Lolland-Falsters Folketidende one July day in 1996. But when I was offered a look at a newly discovered crop circle phenomenon from the air with the possibility of taking photographs - and what's more from an honest-to-goodness airship - my interest and expectations soared to new heights.

On the afternoon of 25 July 1996 I therefore found myself together with the local editor and the photographer Kim Løwenstein aboard Fuji's airship



about 2 km from the airfield, and photograph the new markings in the cornfield that I had not yet seen.

After an astonishingly steep take-off with the French captain Pierre Ponomareff at the controls we had the unexpected opportunity over nearly one-and-a-half hours of seeing Lolland and Smålandsfarvandet from a comparatively low height and leisurely speed. A fantastic and thrilling experience for a flying freak.

Our actual objective, the design, came into view at the end of the trip. It stood out very clearly in the Holeby field and was eagerly commented on and photographed by the Folketidendes photographer, Fuji's own photographer and myself before we set course back to Lolland-Falster Airport, where after some time an enthralling landing procedure was completed.

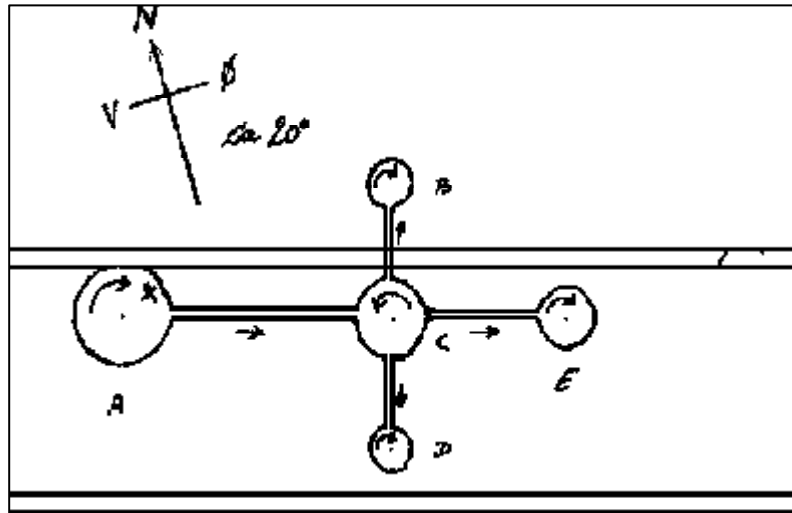
Same location as in 1995

Straight afterwards I drove to Holeby, where the field with the design lay encompassed by village buildings on 2 or 3 sides. I walked through the field's fertiliser lanes up to the design, without any other inquisitive people at my heels. By this time the place had been well known for a few days amongst the local residents, who had therefore also been in to look at the design.

The field is farmed by Klaus Stentebjerg-Olesen, who had not been aware of the design until he was contacted about it. He had had a man working in the field three weeks earlier, at which time nothing unusual had been observed.

According to the farmer's information there had been no over-fertilisation or suchlike that could have caused the design.

This design was found in the same field and about the same



place as the crop circle phenomenon I investigated in September 1995 and described at length in UFO-Nyt No. 4, 1995. Again it was a wheat field. The height of the corn at the time of the investigation was around 70-80 cm.

Five circles in the form of a cross

This year's design was a cross formation consisting of five circles connected by crossbeams. The total length of the design was around 49.3 metres, and the total width around 26.75 metres. The size of the circles ranged between 9.6 metres and 3.3 metres.



The corn had been pressed right down to the ground. Some single stalks were still standing. In some areas of the circles the stalks were laid very distinctly in lanes. In the four outer circles the corn was lying clockwise, while those in the centre circle were lying anticlockwise.

The two lengthways crossbeams were not straight but very crooked in their execution. This is clearly shown by photographs, both from the ground and the air.

Nor were these crossbeams laid in a continuous line through the centre circle. This is clearly seen in some of the aerial photographs that were taken of the design.

Some of the circles appeared to have been formed in a very slipshod manner; the stalks in the aforementioned lanes, for example, were in some places lying on top of each other.

Similarities to the 1995 design

The composition of the design bore certain a similarity to the previous year's, although this only contained two circles and their respective crossbeams. Some notable similarities are:

- The new design lay in the same geographical orientation as the previous year's design, that is parallel with the ferti-

Design in wheat field at Holeby on Lolland, July 1996. The corn stalks have been laid to the ground in the circles and crossbeams in the directions of the arrows. The diameter of the largest circle is about 9.6 metres.

Crooked crossbeams connect the circles in the Holeby design.



Two crop circles at Skovnæs farm near Maribo, 27 July 1996. The fertilising lanes lie 1.6 metres from the smaller circle, seen in the background to the right.



liser lanes and the direction of sowing, and the design was accessible via the fertiliser lanes.

- The circles were not laid out totally correctly, as the circles' diameters varied considerably.
- The crossbeams were of the same width in both years' designs, namely around 90 cm.
- The corn was again this year laid right down to the ground.
- The corn in all the crossbeams was laid in the same directions as in 1995.

New design appears

On the morning of 27 July 1996 a colleague informed me by phone that a new crop circle phenomenon had appeared in a field 1.5 km west of Maribo. My wife and I decided to go and have a look at it straight away.

It lay in a field belonging to the Skovnæs farm, whose owner, Anne Marie Juul Hare, immediately gave us permission to go into the field via the fertiliser lanes. The design consisted of two circles of different siz-

es. The southernmost was the largest, with a diameter between 13.9 metres and 14.25 metres. It was situated in a low area of the field and was only visible from areas higher up. The northernmost circle had a diameter of 8.65-8.80 metres. There was about 28 metres between the centres of the two circles.

Again it was a wheat field, with a crop height of around 70-80 cm. The corn had been laid right down to the ground in both circles. In both places the corn could be seen to lie in lanes with a width of around 80-90 cm. Single stalks were still standing - especially where the lanes lay next to each other. The stalks in the larger circle were lying in an anticlockwise direction.

Distinct footprints

The fertiliser lanes lay up to and through the larger circle. Leading off from there, towards the smaller circle, there were distinct footprints in many parts of the fertiliser lanes.

There was a distance of around 1.60 metres between the fertiliser lanes themselves and the smaller circle. In this area we found signs that a person - or a very large animal - had passed through the corn from the fertilising lane and into the circle. We could see bent stalks as well as partial footprints and a broken ear of corn on the ground. A little farther north there were signs of the same passage from the circle and back to the fertiliser lanes.

We cannot completely rule out the possibility that an inquisitive person had been there before us, but observations made by the neighbours make this very improbable.

The stalks in the smaller circle were also in lanes with a width of 80-90 cm, lying in a clockwise direction. The outer lane was an exception to this, lying anticlockwise!

Both circles appeared to have been made rather clumsily and in a hurry. Information from a neighbour and the farmer makes it seem likely that the circles were constructed in the

field overnight between 25 and 26 July.

Similarities in the designs

The two Lolland 1996 designs lie about 6 km from each other, but there are nevertheless a number of similarities to be found:

- Both designs were accessible via the fertiliser lanes.
- According to the measurements none of the circles was constructed with any great accuracy.
- No holes of any type were found in the centres of the circles.
- The corn was laid right down to the ground.
- In both designs the corn was lying in almost identical lanes with regard to width and appearance.

• The circles resembled each other in appearance. When standing in the cornfields one immediately had the impression that they had been constructed by the same method.

Conclusion

Having personally visited and recorded both designs and considered the facts, it is my conviction that both of the Lolland crop circles could have been created by people, without any great difficulty, possibly with the aid of a small roller or other suitable tool with a width of 80-90 cm.

I have not come across anything to indicate the possibility of other forms of origin for the two crop circles at Holeby and Maribo. Nothing suggests that the stalks in the crop circles were laid down all at once by



Ole Henningsen in the middle of the large crop circle at Maribo.

some sort of pressure from above, either by an object or a recognised wind or weather phenomenon.

SUFOI has received no reports that can in any way relate the designs to UFO phenomena. I am therefore convinced that intelligent beings from Earth have been at work in the Lolland cornfields - again in the summer of 1996.

Looked for shooting stars - saw cigars

In August 1995 there were, as usual, a lot of shooting stars (the Perseides). Kim and Susi in Nivå decided to lie on the terrace by their house in the evening to experience some of those. It was cold and they tucked in under several covers but still froze.

They saw the shooting stars, but got more out of it than they had expected. Between 11:30 pm and 12:00 am they both saw a long mahogany coloured phenomenon crossing the sky. It moved from east to west, and Susi got up to get a closer look. They both saw it disappearing in the west near the Great Bear. It just disappeared while it was in the sky as if the lights had been turned off.

The phenomenon was oblong but somewhat shorter than a "cigar". It was orange-brownish. Neither of the two witnesses thought that it lit itself, rather that it reflected the light from

another source. The colour was a colour of the surface of the phenomenon. After 10 to 15 minutes the phenomenon returned. But this time there were two just like the first one! These two moved parallel and in the same direction and speed as the first one, from east to west. The only difference was that one of the objects made some small turns in the sky.

A week after the sighting the witnesses contacted SUFOI and this reporter has conducted a phone interview and visited the witnesses in their home.

Both witnesses had a very good impression of the incident and were very precise in their descriptions. All of the objects had moved past through the sky and in a reconstruction every part-sighting was timed as 7 to 8 seconds. The size of the objects was measured as 12 millimetres, little bigger than the moon.

The witnesses only disagreed on a couple of points: Kim thought that the shape was more oblong than Susi did and there was a difference in their perceptions of the colour.

Neither of the witnesses had an explanation for how the phenomenon could have been lit. They live in a residential neighbourhood and there is no industry or anything like it near there. But they still stick to their opinion that the objects didn't light themselves but reflected the light from somewhere else.

SUFOI has not been able to come up with an explanation for this sighting. The phenomena are so different from planes, satellites, meteors and searchlights that such sources of errors can be excluded. Balloons could be a possibility but because of the lack of wind and double appearance this doesn't seem likely.

By Per Andersen

What caused the fighter plane to crash? Part Two

By Brian E. Møller



On 15 September 1970 a Hawker-Hunter aircraft crashed in a field in Frørup near Christiansfeld. A few seconds later two witnesses saw a glowing ball of flame moving away from the scene.

In a newspaper article about the crash the two witnesses told of a glowing fireball that they had observed a few seconds after the plane crash. The police dismissed it as just being exhaust from one of the other planes they had seen. However SUFOI's local representative Kai E. Møller chose to interview the two witnesses anyway.

The witnesses, a farmer and an apprentice blacksmith, had been standing in the field about to repair a combine harvester when the plane went down. At first Kai Møller could only get hold of the farmer, who described how they had experienced the event and how the fireball flew off and disappeared with the noise of a hailstorm.

Kai Møller contacted the Accident Investigation Unit for a statement, but was told that he would have to wait for the official explanation. When Kai Møller subsequently contacted the two witnesses, they said that a military official had asked them not to make any statements to the press or to ufologists. The witnesses chose to do so anyway. Their accounts of the event were consistent with each other, apart from their estimates of the size of the ball.

In a newspaper article in 1970 SUFOI attempted to find further witnesses to the plane

crash, and possibly the fireball, but without success. After a while Kai Møller contacted the Accident Investigation Unit again, and was told that all the pilot's instruments had failed and that, without realising it, he had been flying upside down. When he was told to climb above the cloud cover, the unsuspecting pilot flew straight down into the ground.

So there was not much more for SUFOI to go on in this particular case!

Storm in a teacup?

Shortly after my first article on the case (UFO-Nyt 3/95) I received a letter from Clas Svahn, the head of UFO-Sweden. On 13 January 1979, as a journalist for Tiding för Skaraborgs Län i Mariestad, he was out at the scene of an accident in Ransted in Sweden when two planes crashed during a night exercise. For some reason or another one of the pilots had more faith in himself than in his instruments and crashed, his colleague following him down.

This is consistent with an attack of spatial disorientation, which I described in my last article, and pilots have told me that when they are flying they always follow their leader visually.

However Clas Svahn had another theory concerning the fireball from the plane crash in 1970. Three points from my article were able to support his hypothesis:

1) The fireball was seen after the four planes had received

orders to climb above the cloud cover and a few seconds after the explosion.

2) The fireball gave off a sound like that of an approaching hailstorm.

3) The drawing of the fireball with a well-defined interior and a frayed corona.

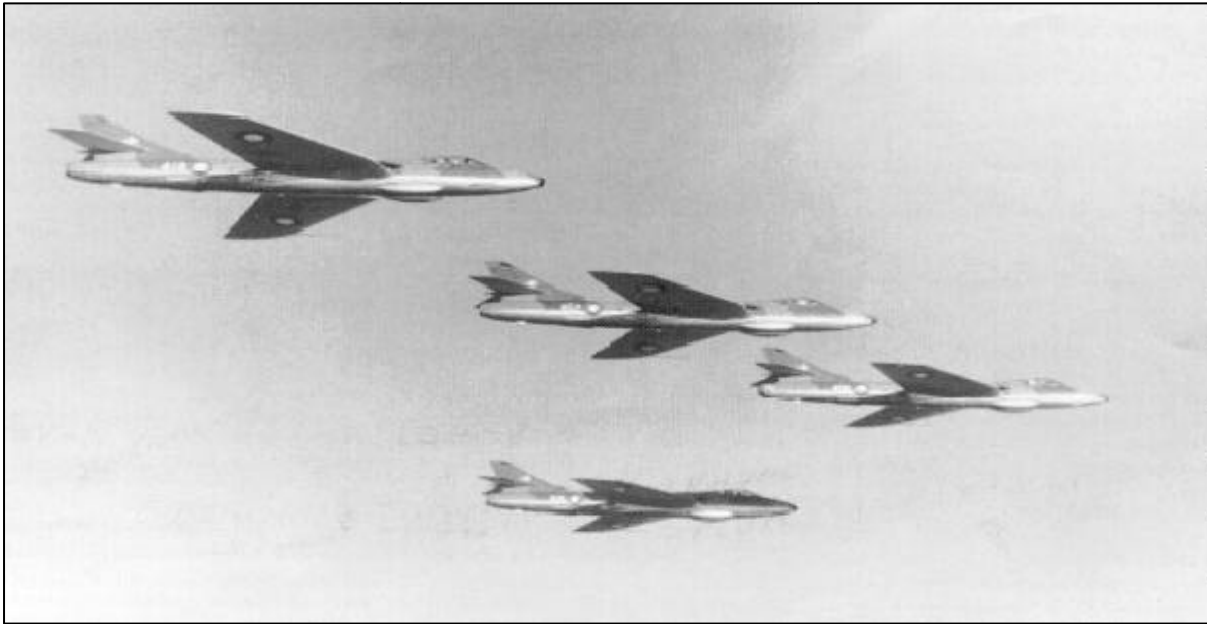
According to Clas Svahn, the above points suggest that the fireball could be exhaust from the victim's climbing colleagues seen through haze or a low bank of cloud. The sound like an approaching hailstorm is a common noise from fighter planes when the pilot steps on the gas, for example during an ascent.

If Svahn's hypothesis is valid then the police were right in the first place, and the whole affair has been a storm in a teacup.

The right man explains

Some time later I received a copy of a letter sent to the head of SUFOI, Per Andersen. The letter was from Mogens E. Hansen, who was trained as a pilot in the Air Force. Mogens E. Hansen has been flying for 40 years, in the Chipmunk, Harvard, T-33, F-84G, Meteor 7 and the Hawker Hunter for eleven years (with the Danish record of around 2,400 hours). After September 1972 he was with Maersk Air, where he flew the Fokker F-27 and the Boeing 737 over a period of 19 years, with a total flying time of around 19,000 hours.

Mogens E. Hansen was the commander of the second half of the planes (A-Flight) in that exercise at Skrydstrup Air Base



A formation of Hawker-Hunter aircraft photographed in April 1956. Picture: RDAF Historical Collection, Tactical Air Command, Karup Air Base

and was involved in receiving external enquiries about the plane crash (B-Flight, Vandel). He also took care of enquiries to the deceased pilot's family. We must say that could not have hoped for a more competent person to shed light on the plane crash of 15 September 1970.

Mogens E. Hansen explains that a report can often be given the next-lowest classification "For Service Use" (the lowest is Declassified), which means that it is more or less freely available to people within the military, but not the general public.

Why the plane crashed

Here Mogens E. Hansen presents his bid for the most likely explanation for the crash:

"The pilot was newly trained and therefore had a comparatively limited number of flying hours and experience with that type of aircraft, but was an excellent 'apprentice' in the job.

"The most probable reason is that the pilot, when he lost visual contact with the formation, did not follow procedure by switching over to his instruments immediately, but continued to look outside and "fight" to regain visual contact with the

others. He was in cloud, he had no reference to fly by and everything was grey. During this he had managed to bring the plane into an "unusual position", possibly upside-down (the Hunter was incredibly "lively" on the rudder). If you apply a sufficiently low rate of banking and maintain it, as well as maintaining normal gravitational acceleration (1G), after a short while you will not be able to notice the change (inner ear); you have no visual references (horizon/lights/instruments) and can very well end up in an almost vertical dive, all the while under the impression that you are flying almost level.

"When the pilot does switch over to his instruments, they show completely unexpected positions and readings. They must be read, interpreted, combined and reacted to. In which direction? The altitude is not very great, it is decreasing rapidly, it is too late to eject at such a high rate of dive, and so there was the ground!"

What the eyewitnesses saw

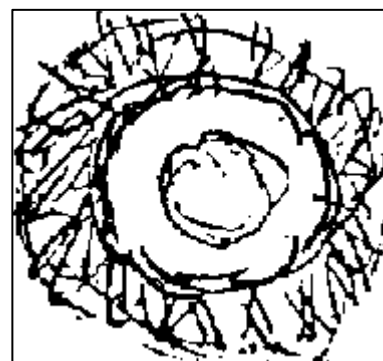
Regarding the witnesses' description of the plane crash and the fireball Mogens E. Hansen writes:

"A reflection from the explosion or exhaust from the other fighters are two of the possibilities..."

Yes, but the exhaust from a Hunter is just not visible, even at night! Besides, the other planes were by that time several kilometres away and at several kilometres altitude, so...!?

A reflection from the explosion? Maybe not, but the explosion itself, yes! What's more, fairly plausible explanations coming from perhaps not very knowledgeable police officers!

When more than 2,000 litres of highly flammable petroleum roars down into a hole in the ground at nearly the speed of sound, is compressed and ignited, then obviously something happens! Because of the expansion of the violent rise in temperature, the "fireball" created will obviously shoot upwards. The ignited fuel burns extreme-



One of the witnesses to the crash made this drawing of the strange fireball.

ly quickly, i.e. the fireball rapidly shrinks and is gone (ask special effects people on action films how they create an atom bomb explosion). For an eyewitness the shrinking of the fireball can very well create the illusion that it is flying off at great speed (especially on that dark, rainy day). Mist from the rain can explain the possible "corona".

I do not remember whether it was windy that day, but the fireball would also be blown by the wind. That can perhaps explain the change of direction, if that observation is not an optical illusion.

Furthermore, eyewitness accounts from this type of incident should always be treated with a deal of scepticism. With a plane crash with several eyewitnesses there will always be someone who will swear that they saw and heard the plane explode in the sky, even though that was definitely not what happened!

As far as I remember, the Accident Investigation Unit estimated the plane's angle of de-

scent to be 75-80 degrees. The engine was running at high revolutions, definitely in correspondence with "climbing revolutions" (that could be established definitely by analysing the engine and the positions of the control rods and pistons, as well as the distortion of the compressor and turbine in the crash).

I would estimate the speed at the time of impact to be at least 0.9M (90% of the speed of sound): over 1,000 kph (more than 280 m/s).

I believe the cloud cover that day was not over 300m, i.e. the plane can at the most have been visible for around one second before impact.

"There was a loud explosion, followed by a couple of smaller ones." That agrees very well with my assumption that the plane had been close to the speed of sound, so that the two smaller "explosions" had been sonic booms - shock waves that after the crash then "catch up" with the plane on the ground (usually with two "bangs",

which are not always particularly loud. It depends on the speed and type of plane).

The sound: *"a hailstorm or a hissing."* Also a natural event! Well described, what's more! When an object or a plane moves through the air at high speed, it of course produces a disturbance in the "still" air in the form of vortices and possible shock waves. These spread out from the plane and follow in its direction for a while, and they are especially audible when the plane has been close to the ground and gone past (the sound is very surprising when you first hear it).

Solved

The explanation above is the most plausible one I have heard so far, and I am very grateful to Mogens E. Hansen for writing to us after having read the first article on the case in UFO-Nyt 3/95. With that, the 26-year-old case can finally be regarded as solved.

A housewife relates:

Car stops in Odense

"My husband and I were driving along Kroglundsvej on our way to Næsby, when the car broke down by a little yellow house. It was 18.15 on Saturday 10 October 1980, and the weather was dark and drizzly.

"My husband got out and poured petrol into the car from a can, but couldn't understand it as we had filled the tank up in the afternoon.

"While he was outside the car he saw two stars in the distance out over Lindø shipyard, but otherwise nothing unusual.

"He couldn't understand how he could see stars when it was so overcast and raining.

"When he got in the car again it still wouldn't start. Suddenly we saw a very large, shiny, oval object over a barn on the farm. It was about 100 metres away, and about half the size of a bus. It was blazing yellow and red like a burning matchstick.

"We don't know how long we stayed there. We couldn't go anywhere.

"All at once two black 'holes' appeared at one end of the object, and two large flames came out of the holes with a mixture of red, yellow and bluish light. We've never seen anything so fascinating.

"Not a sound came from it while it flew, and it flew in the same direction as the flames were coming out of the 'holes', which surprised us.

"It disappeared very quickly. Afterwards the car started normally and we drove off. Oh, I'll never forget it."

The two stars were seen in the same direction as the UFO, namely towards the north. The stars could very easily be landing lights on a plane coming in to land at Odense Airport, where they generally approach from the north, thereby shining their landing lights toward the south.

Erling
Hegelund

Did he lose something?

One morning in the spring of 1958 to pilots, independently of each other, saw the same phenomenon at Aalborg Air Base. A Hawker Hunter that was coming in to land looked as though it had dropped something. But the "dropped" part split apart, carried on flying and disappeared!

In my article on the 1970 plane crash I mentioned Mogens E. Hansen, who was able to shed new light over what actually took place then. During our long and enjoyable discussion, I asked Mogens E. Hansen whether he had ever seen or heard anything about UFOs during his time as a pilot. His reply to this was no; he had never experienced anything he was not able to explain. And how!

He suddenly remembered an incident from the end of March or the beginning of April 1958, around 09:55, at Aalborg Air Base. There was bright sunshine with a cloud-free sky, practically no wind, excellent visibility and a beautiful blue sky. Mogens E. Hansen writes in a follow-up letter to me:

"I was on night watch in the squadron, and after the lads turned up at 08:00 I had been up in my 'den' tidying myself up, and in the mess having breakfast. After that I was supposed to report at the squadron at 10:00 for duty.

"I arrived at the squadron area, parked my car and made my way towards the squadron building. On my way in I saw two Hunters coming from the east to brake for landing. It is always a nice sight to see Hunters in the air, so I stopped to enjoy it.

"An approach for landing involves flying towards the air

base via an IP (Identification Point), a fixed point on the terrain around the various air bases, to the relevant runway. The speed is around 600 kph, at a height of 1,000 feet (300 metres). When you are over the end of the runway you 'brake', that is you throw the aircraft abruptly from left to right, pull back the throttle, apply thrusters and a little flaps and turn almost 180 degrees while simultaneously climbing to 1,500 feet (450 metres), in order to quickly get your speed down to 'landing gear speed'. Then you drop the landing gear, make a final turn, open full flaps and land.

"This originates from the war: high speed to prevent being shot down, and the shortest time with the lowest speed before landing. Also, with this procedure it is possible to land several planes in a short period of time.

"Well, when the two Hunters came in over the end of the runway, the first one braked followed by the second.

"As the second plane braked I thought, 'Whoops, he dropped something there!' Then I direct-

ed my attention to what he had 'dropped'. It did not fall towards the ground however, but remained hanging in the air. It was a shiny metallic white, and after a short time seemed to split into two. One of the parts slipped back a little to one side, and then I saw that it seemed to be triangular.

"If these things were 300 metres up, then they were extremely small, maybe less than 1 metre in diameter!

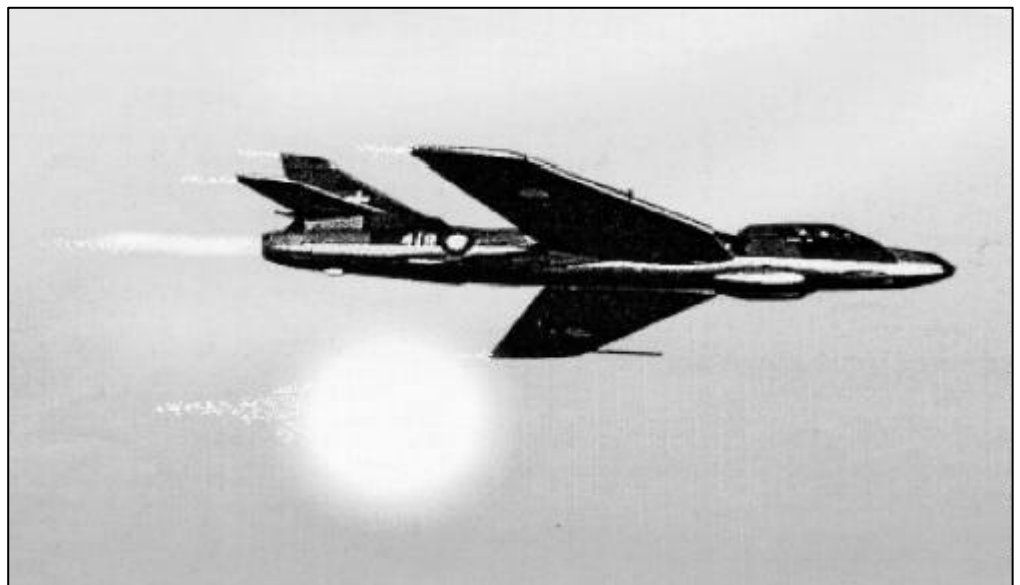
"From my position the direction of view was roughly SSW, that is not directly towards the sun.

"These two objects were moving very slowly NNE, directly towards where I was standing. I was a little surprised (unfortunately not thinking of UFOs and suchlike), but reasoned that they was probably just a couple of foreign aircraft, maybe a couple of F-86 Sabres, coming in from the south at high altitude in order to carry out a simulated forced landing, i.e. they simulate engine failure and come gliding slowly into a landing at Aalborg.

By Brian E. Møller



Drawing:
Henrik
Klinge
Pedersen



"I contented myself with that and went inside, as it was check-in time for me, but I was still puzzling over the shiny white 'triangles'. Of course an F-86's underside is made of shiny metal, but there was no snow on the ground that could have reflected the sharp sunlight up onto the underside; still a little mysterious! However, I was fairly satisfied with the explanation I had come up with, and decide to keep my experience to myself for the time being.

"Later however, while having lunch in the mess I heard that another pilot had also seen something curious that morning. He had seen the same thing as I had: the second plane had 'dropped' something when it was braking!

"It was especially interesting that this observer had been standing south of the runway, looking northwards at the two Hunters. His observations agreed completely with mine, for the period that I had been watching, whereas he stayed there and saw that the 'objects' - according to him - moved quickly off towards NNE, then suddenly shot upwards and just disappeared into the blue.

"Regarding the observations, assuming we did see the same thing, well then we have a fix (1,000 feet/300 metres up).

"The pilots in the two Hunters had not noticed anything unusual during their flight or landing.

"But in his line of sight towards the Hunters, can the ob-

server standing south of the runway by chance have spotted two other planes, there to the north of us, also at high altitude, flying slowly NNE?

"In that case it was an almost unbelievable coincidence! But on the other hand, it would not be completely impossible - would it?"

This is a very interesting report in my opinion, especially as we are talking here about observers with considerable experience of aerial phenomena; also that there are two independent witnesses who saw the same thing and perceived it in the same way ("he dropped something"). The report ends here, and it is practically impossible to find any more information on the case.

By Per
Andersen



Dear Svend Auken

In June SUFOI sent an open letter to the Danish Environment Minister Svend Auken. We pointed out the problems and nuisance caused by the growing use of spotlights and lasers in the sky for publicity purposes.

Our concerns are first and foremost to the effect that:

The growing use of spotlights is an unnecessary pollution of our common sky. That means among other things that it becomes more and more difficult to see natural sky phenomena. Furthermore it is a waste of energy.

Spotlights and lasers are a cause of erroneous sightings, as many people are surprised - some even shaken or scared - when these lights move "strangely" through the sky.

And SUFOI surely has its finger on the pulse when it comes to sightings of such lights in the sky. Our statistics show that the phenomenon has grown over a five-year period from nothing to today account-

ing for every fifth report to SUFOI. Never before have we experienced such a fast emergence of a new source of erroneous sightings.

Some - for example the Danish TV News feature on the subject, where SUFOI was interviewed - will ask whether it really is a problem. For god's sake, there's just a little more light in the sky every now and then.

But it actually is a problem. Firstly there has been a marked increase in use that shows no sign of diminishing.

Secondly there is no law on the subject. There are laws about everything else today. Previously you could often see signs with "Eggs for sale" along the roadside. Most of these signs are now forbidden, as they are considered to be "dominant advertisements" in the open countryside.

If that is the case, what can you say about spotlights that can be seen up to 50-80 km away! But the law is pathetically lack-

ing when it comes to spotlights and lasers. There is quite simply no regulatory law.

Fortunately the Environment Ministry is aware of the case. Other organisations such as the Danish Astronomical Society have also made an effort to get the problem focused upon. Consequently there are plans to hold a conference in the autumn, where all the interested organisations can discuss the extent of the problem. SUFOI is also expecting to take part in this conference on the grounds of our great practical experience with these extremely troublesome lights in the sky.

Our aim is at least to bring some regulation into this area, so that it is legally established under what circumstances it is allowed to use spotlights and lasers in the sky. Through the efforts of SUFOI and similar organisations we hope and expect that this aim will be achieved during the course of next year.

The fear of not knowing

The other day I was reading a sighting report. The witness had written in it that the case certainly couldn't involve any known phenomenon. When I phoned the witness to ask how that could be the case, I received the answer, "I know it - I know what I experienced!"

That got me thinking again about how much people trust their own senses, despite the fact that we know that in many situations we definitely cannot trust our senses! As Toke Haunstrup demonstrated in an article in UFO-Nyt No. 4, 1995, it is for example impossible for the human eye (and brain) to judge the distance of a light in a dark sky. Regardless of this, time after time we receive statements from witnesses such as "The light was at the most 2 km away - I know that for sure."

We're often portrayed as "heretics", because we don't always simply accept that people's testimonies are 100% in agreement with reality. People criticise us and say that we "don't believe people". But we do! We just question the difference between people's "experience" and "actual reality".

When we are dealing with witnesses to crimes or road traffic accidents, most people can accept that one doesn't always experience what actually happened. Was the car red or orange? Was it a knife the man was holding? These questions are often answered differently by different witnesses. There are many examples, and all scientific research con-

firms that people observe and remember very poorly.

But why is it so difficult for UFO witnesses to understand that their own senses can also trick them?

Well, firstly there is always a difference between yourself and everyone else in the world. Your own children are the best brought up and the most intelligent of all children. And the team you support is always the best - even when they lose. So it's not hard to say "it's mostly other people, and not me, who can be fooled by their senses".

Another reason is that people usually believe that we see with the eyes. We don't. We see with the brain! The eyes certainly receive visual impressions, and therefore people think that the eyes work just like a precise measuring instrument. That is just not so, because the pictures one sees are formed exclusively in the brain. And the brain is not a "precise measuring instrument" - not by any means. Nobody would claim that their dreams are real, even though these pictures are also created in the brain.

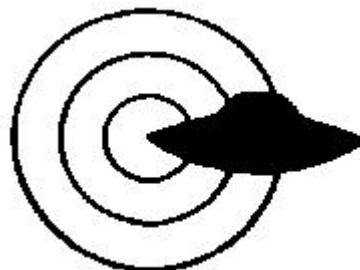
Therefore if we can get used to remembering that the view is sitting in the brain and not in the eyes, we will have come a good part of the way.

But there is yet another reason that people don't question their own experiences. And that is a much more deep-set reason: they very much want people to believe them, and they are afraid to admit

that there is something they don't know. This fear of saying "I don't know" or "I made a mistake" lies deep in all of us, and is related to driving progress forward - an urge to get an answer to every question.

But where sightings are concerned, the unknown is a healthy and natural thing that people shouldn't be afraid of. People shouldn't be afraid to say that they can't remember or didn't manage to see all the details. People shouldn't be afraid to say that they haven't the slightest idea what it was they saw. And people shouldn't be afraid to say that maybe they experienced things differently from how they actually were! Even though that goes against the built-in reflex that is sitting in us all - We always know best!

Even though we in SUFOI have occupied ourselves with UFOs for nearly 40 years, we're certainly not afraid to say that we don't know everything. Far from it! In SUFOI we definitely don't have all the answers - but we have an enormous pile of questions. And this, ladies and gentlemen, is not Jeopardy - this is pure, unadulterated reality.



By Per Andersen



Russian mystery solved - with Danish help

By Per
Andersen



Captions The glass ball has a diameter of around 4.5 cm.

Photo: SUFOI Picture Library

In the summer of 1983 some Russian labourers were digging their way through a seven-metre layer of red clay. They were intending to lay some foundations, but instead they found a strange glass-like ball. For nearly ten years the ball lay in the local museum as a curiosity, and no-one could agree on its origin. Many speculated that it could have come from outer space. Now, with the help of SUFOI, the ball has been investigated.

The glass ball was found in the summer of 1983 near the town of Kasimov (in the Ryazan region of Russia, at that time part of the USSR), where a group of labourers were laying foundations by

the river Oka. According to their statement they noticed the ball seven metres down in a layer of clean, red clay. They were surprised by the ball's appearance and passed it on to the director of Kasimov's local museum, Yuri I. Predeen.

The ball stayed on the director's desk as curiosity over a ten-year period, during which time the museum's many specialists were unable to agree on its age and origin.

In 1992 Yuri I. Predeen wrote to Dr Yuri N. Morozov, a well-known investigator of astro-archaeology and a member of RIAP's scientific committee, to inform him of the discovery. Morozov contacted the commit-

tee, and in the autumn of 1992 the director of RIAP, Dr Vladimir V. Rubtsov, travelled to Kasimov to see the ball for himself. Predeen proposed that he could take the ball back with him to have it examined by RIAP.

Support from SUFOI

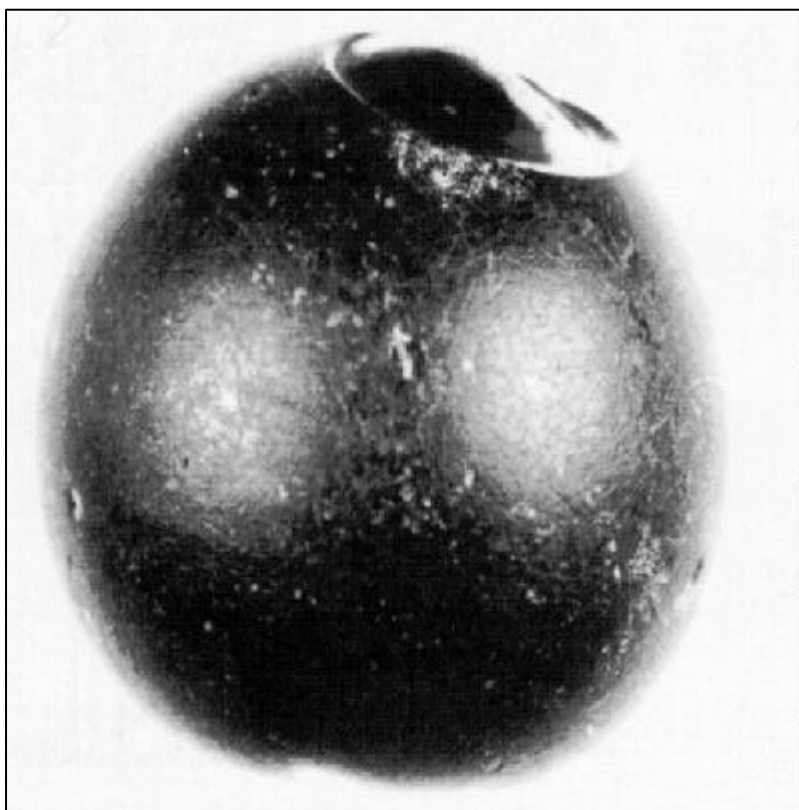
It was assumed that physical and chemical analysis of the ball's structure and composition

would confirm or deny the ball's conventional nature. Money was tight, however, so RIAP applied to SUFOI for a grant to have the analysis carried out. Since the purpose of SUFOI is to carry out serious investigation, we were in no doubt that we wanted to support the project.

RIAP then set to work on the investigation. The group was unfortunately denied access to a more thorough chemical examination of the ball, because of the disorganisation in the structure of scientific research in the Soviet republics. There was simply no scientist back at the laboratories who could operate the equipment. Despite this a number of tests were performed on the ball, such as its physical structure, shape and properties, radiation, magnetism and self-rotation.

The results suggested that the ball was made of glass and produced by means of a hand-operated glass-blowing tube. This is the reason that the ball does not have a regular shape, as the formation of the surface was dependant on a combination of surface tension, the viscosity of the molten glass, air pressure inside the bubble and the speed of its formation through the blowing of air. In Russian glass production in the 18th century such a bubble was called a "banochka" (meaning a small jar), and was a by-product of glassware manufacture.

On the ball can be seen a remnant of the stem that connected it to the glass-blowing tube. A funnel-shaped groove inside the



ball next to the stem indicates a channel formed by the blowing air. This is typical for handmade glass.

A toy?

There are black residues in the glass, which suggests a simple technology. The glass was probably heated with wood, which resulted in contamination of the molten glass with small pieces of charcoal. Such a technology existed in Russia before 1880. Extensive glass production began in Russia at the end of the 17th century.

The surface of the ball is very rough, except for the cut section and the groove next to the stem. The surface at the cut section is not rough, which proves that the cut occurred recently and is therefore much younger than the other parts of the ball's surface. The fact that the rough appearance is missing in the area of the groove suggests that the ball has

become rough by being rolled over a hard surface, for example a floor covered with sand. It is probable that the glass ball was used for a long time as a child's toy.

Dating abandoned

The ball's density was established to be 2.58 g/cm³, which lies close to the normal density for ordinary glass.

The researchers measured the radiation from the ball in order to determine its age. However an attempt to determine the age of the ball in this way unfortunately had to be abandoned. At the laboratory for dating by means of radiation at the Institute for Nuclear Geology and Geochemistry they had gradually lost all their employees, although all the instruments were still there.

With the help of A. I. Spiridonov it could be determined from the ball's gamma radiation that

it contained 2 x 10⁻⁴% uranium, 2 x 10⁻⁴% thorium and 1.2 x 10⁻⁴% radium. The gamma radiation from the ball was due mainly to a 4% decay of potassium. The amount of uranium and thorium was too small to be able to determine the ball's age; this would have required the equipment to be running for a period of five to six days, which was not possible under the prevailing circumstances.

Conclusion

The investigation led to the following conclusion: The glass ball is probably the product of human hands and the methods of glass manufacture that were used in Russia 150-200 years ago. It was probably a by-product which for one reason or another was not used for the manufacture of an article of glassware. There are indications that the ball was used instead as a children's toy.

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New Danish UFO publications

By Per
Andersen



Are UFO-Nyt and SUFOI Newsletter SUFOI's only publications? No! From 1 July 1996 UFO-Nyt and SUFOI Newsletter are just two of several periodicals from SUFOI.

From this date the amount of information on UFOs in Denmark will be increased with an additional publication, SUFOI Nyhedsbrev, which will come out six times a year with 30-40 pages each issue.

The new publication is in no way a replacement for UFO-Nyt, rather an important supplement. It is aimed first and foremost towards the UFO-Nyt readers who would like more information, especially about SUFOI's activities. The publication can be regarded as a members' newsletter, while UFO-Nyt continues as a general source of information on UFO phenomena.

We felt that it was time for a proper members' newsletter for SUFOI. That need is difficult to satisfy through UFO-Nyt, which has the more general function of providing a broad coverage of the subject. Therefore we chose a new publication that can concentrate solely on things of interest to the members.

In SUFOI Nyhedsbrev you will be able to read about new activities in SUFOI, and it will also be an important forum of debate for members. Furthermore there will be copies of UFO articles from the press as

well as up-to-date lists of sightings. All things that have long been sought after by UFO-Nyt's readers.

You can find more information on the new publication in UFO-Nyt No. 2, 1996.

All things considered SUFOI is in a state of rapid development at the moment. It sizzles and bubbles with activity and the planning of future activities. We can therefore already unveil another new publication from SUFOI that will be launched towards the end of this year. This is the magazine Ufological Journal, which will take an in-depth scientific approach to UFO research in Denmark and abroad.

Thus by the end of the year SUFOI will have no fewer than three periodicals: the general UFO-Nyt and two specialist publications. This expansion reflects our philosophy of a much wider distribution of UFO information in Denmark, in many forms and to many groups of people. It can be seen in today's media that the amount of available information is increasing rapidly. Therefore the tendency towards highly targeted information is obvious.

These days, where more and more information is available electronically, it might be thought strange to increase the amount of 'paper publications'. But it is my firm belief that the electronic media will not replace paper -rather they will constitute an important supplement. Paper publications will continue to have a raison d'être in their own right.

However it is correct that the electronic media are also important. Therefore, besides broadening the number of publications, SUFOI will also focus on these new methods of distributing information. CD-ROM, BBS, Web, Internet and the Diskette Service are all concepts that you will hear much more about from SUFOI over the coming years.

SUFOI Nyhedsbrev

Would you like to keep more up-to-date with the UFO debate, SUFOI, the press's handling of the subject and the latest sightings in Denmark? If so we have a completely new publication for you: SUFOI Newsletter! Six times a year SUFOI will publish the newsletter that, as a supplement to UFO-Nyt, gives you:

- Lists of the latest Danish sightings
- News from local SUFOI groups over the whole country
- SUFOI's activities for members
- The media's treatment of UFOs
- Lectures held
- Debate
- Copies of clippings on UFOs from the Danish press
- Much, much more.

The magazine will focus on members' activities in SUFOI and be aimed especially towards readers who want more material about the above subjects.

It will have a varying page count, but typically from 30 to 40 pages each issue. Published every odd month.

Victory at the Press Tribunal

After the Danish TV2 Reportage Team programme on UFOs last Autumn, SUFOI made a number of complaints to the Press Tribunal about the programme's production and publicity. The Tribunal upheld SUFOI's complaint about the editing.

SUFOI complained to the Press Tribunal about TV2's programme on UFOs that was broadcast on 18 October 1995. The basis for the objections was that we were unhappy with the publicising of the programme as a 'UFO war'. Firstly SUFOI was never informed that that was what the programme would be used for, and secondly the so-called war does not even exist. Furthermore we complained about serious manipulation of the interview with SUFOI.

The last complaint was upheld, and the Press Tribunal issued the following judgement:

Findings of the Press Tribunal

On 18 October 1995 TV2 broadcast the programme "The UFO War".

The programme contained among other things a number of comments from Per Andersen, who is the head of the organisation "Scandinavian UFO Information". Per An-

dersen has subsequently complained to the Press Tribunal about the way his comments were used. He finds that it is contrary to good journalistic practice.

The Press Tribunal agrees with Per Andersen that the editing and juxtaposition of material in the programme gives a distorted impression of the substance of a number of his comments. The Press Tribunal therefore expresses its criticism of TV2's conduct.

Copenhagen, 25 January 1996. Axel Kierkegaard, Hans Dam, Kate Bluhme and Preben Sørensen.

Comments

SUFOI is obviously very satisfied with this judgement. However it raises a very interesting question, regarding the editing together of fragments from two different answers to two different questions to make a completely new sentence. Modern computer technology makes that sort of thing possible these days, without the viewer noticing any manipulation at all.

If it happened in print, it would correspond to taking, for example, the following sentence: *"I believe that one day people will live on the Moon, but it will only be a very small group"*, and the sentence *"Symptoms of stress will appear in the population, if lots of people are crammed together in a small area"*, and put them together to make a new

sentence: *"I believe that one day people will live on the Moon, but symptoms of stress will appear in the population."*

Seeing this in print most people would cry foul, or even say that it was a deliberate distortion of the truth. It is therefore most disturbing that TV2, with director Jørgen Flindt Pedersen in charge, finds the above-mentioned type of quote manipulation acceptable if the meaning is not changed significantly. This philosophy is also known as *"it's all right to lie, so long as you're not found out"*!

Now there is no doubt that the TV media by necessity have to edit recorded interviews. They have to take pieces out and move others around. But when TV2 defends this particular editing technique, it is defending the construction of an artificial sentence that has never been spoken. It exists solely in the computer's memory.

What will be next? Will Jørgen Flindt Pedersen also defend picture manipulation, for example inserting an extra person in a picture - so long as the overall picture is more or less the same?

That TV2 in particular is in the firing line is not completely surprising. TV2 is the channel that in 1994 alone had the most judgements made against it regarding journalistic ethics. In fact twice as many judgements as the tabloid newspaper Ekstra Bladet in second place!

By Per Andersen



SUFOI 40 YEARS ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

*November 1st, 1997
Lyngby Storcenter, Copenhagen*

SUFOI is celebrating its 40 years anniversary with the largest and most international conference ever in Denmark. Some of the worlds leading UFO researchers will present:

**Dr. Richard F.
Haines, USA**



Dr. Richard F. Haines has in 20 years worked for various NASA projects such as Gemini, Apollo and Skylab. Originally he was a sceptic, but when he started to look into the subject he became convinced about the reality of UFOs. Dr. Haines has published a number of classic UFO books. At the conference he will present some of the most existing sightings by pilots and answer the question: Which impact has there been on planes after encounters with UFOs?

**Jenny Randles,
England**



One of the widest recognised UFO researcher in the world. Full-time author and research of UFOs and related phenomena. She is the author of many books on the subject. Previously Research Director for BUFORA and assistant editor of Flying Saucer Review, Jenny Randles today is the editor of Norther UFO

**Clas Svahn, UFO-
Sweden**



Author and editor as well as the chairman of the Swedish UFO society UFO-Sweden. Clas Svahn is the investigator of one of the most interesting and controversial close encounters in Sweden involving Gösta Carlson. Gösta Carlson claims to have witnessed a landed space ship and later he found a mysterious rod and ring on the place. Clas Svahn, the co-author of a book on the case, will present the findings of his research of the case.

**John Spencer,
BUFORA,
England**



Author and member of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) for many years. John Spencer is today the chairman of BUFORA. Co-author of some of the most serious works on the UFO subject, such as the book "UFOs 1947-1987". In the presentation, John Spencer will give an overview of the UFO topic seen from a British perspective.

Besides these four international speakers, the conference will offer local presentations during the full day from 10.00 to 18.00.

Tickets are available from SUFOI for £ 19.

As part of SUFOI's new disk service, we can offer you the following programs, data, text, pictures etc. All text and software is in English unless otherwise stated.

SERIES A: ASTRONOMY AND SPACE

Order No. Description

- A1
SKYGLOBE Planetarium SKYGLOBE. Look at the sky with stars. Zoom in on galaxies, star groupings and ordinary stars. The software is shareware. The file README contains a brief introduction. The file SKYGLOBE.DOC is the full documentation.
- A2
STARVIEW STARVIEW is a program you can use to show a star map with stars and planets from any location at any time. You can adjust direction of view, time and place, and look at the brightest stars and planets.
- A3
TRACKSAT TRACKSAT is a shareware program for tracking satellites. No guarantee is given for the correctness of the file of orbits provided. However, the documentation explains how to get the newest satellite data.
- A4
SOLAR SOLAR is an exciting program to locate and show solar eclipses. You need 300 KB of free disk space.
- A5
STS26 This program shows the orbits of the Space Shuttle. Graphical output.
- A6
GALAXY Create your own Universe! The GALAXY software lets you explore what happens when two galaxies crash. You decide the starting software parameters.

SERIES B: PICTURES AND ANIMATIONS

- B1 Shareware program CompuShow, that can show pictures in a wide range of formats on the screen. Necessary to show the following pictures. Included on this disk are pictures in GIF format:
FACE: The famous face on Mars
VENUS: Photo of Venus
JUPITER: Photo of Jupiter
HALLEY: Photo of Halley's comet
- B2 A number of GIF pictures as follows (CompuShow or similar software required):
ASTRON: Fantastic photo of an astronaut in space with the Earth in the background
LANDING: The Space Shuttle landing on Earth
NEPTUNE8: One of the most beautiful photos of Neptune ever
ADEFGH, AC-KECK and A-HST: Very good photos of the Shoemaker-Levy impacts on Jupiter
- B3
TOUR TOUR is a guided tour through the Universe with explanatory text and photos
- B5 An incredible animation of the spaceship Galileo's and its probing of the atmosphere of Jupiter. The animation consists of more than 1,000 pictures and lasts several minutes.
NOTE: Two disks.

SERIES U: UFOS

No. Description

- U1
MCDONALD Text file with James McDonald's presentation to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 134th meeting, 27 December 1969.
- U3
CANADA The report: "The 1992 Canadian UFO Survey". Statistics on Canadian sightings from 1992 and earlier.
- U5 Three famous pictures as EXE-files:
(1) The Danish photo from Viborg that has been used in many international publications (we believe it is a cloud of damp),
(2) a close shot of a UFO from Aalborg 1963,
(3) the famous picture from Skillingaard, Sweden, that turned out to be a hoax.
- U7 Databases in dBase III format with all Danish sightings from 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995 (a total of more than 1,000 unidentified and identified sightings). Basic data for all sightings plus explanation where one has been found.

SERIES Y: UFO-NYT (all in Danish)

- Y1 All text from UFO-Nyt 1992 no. 2, 3 og 4.
- Y2 All text from UFO-Nyt 1993 (no. 1-4).
- Y3 All text from UFO-Nyt 1994 (no. 1-4).
- Y4 All text from UFO-Nyt 1995 (no. 1-4).

SERIES S: ASTROLOGY, BIORHYTHMS ETC

- S1
BIO BIO is a program that calculates biorhythms for any person at any point in time. The program is shareware and in Danish.
- S2
ASTRO ASTRO is an extensive and major software product to provide astrology data and horoscopes. You need at least 2 MB of free disk space. The horoscopes are very detailed and around 15 pages for each person. This is claimed to be the best astrology program on the market. On-line help is available with F1.

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